

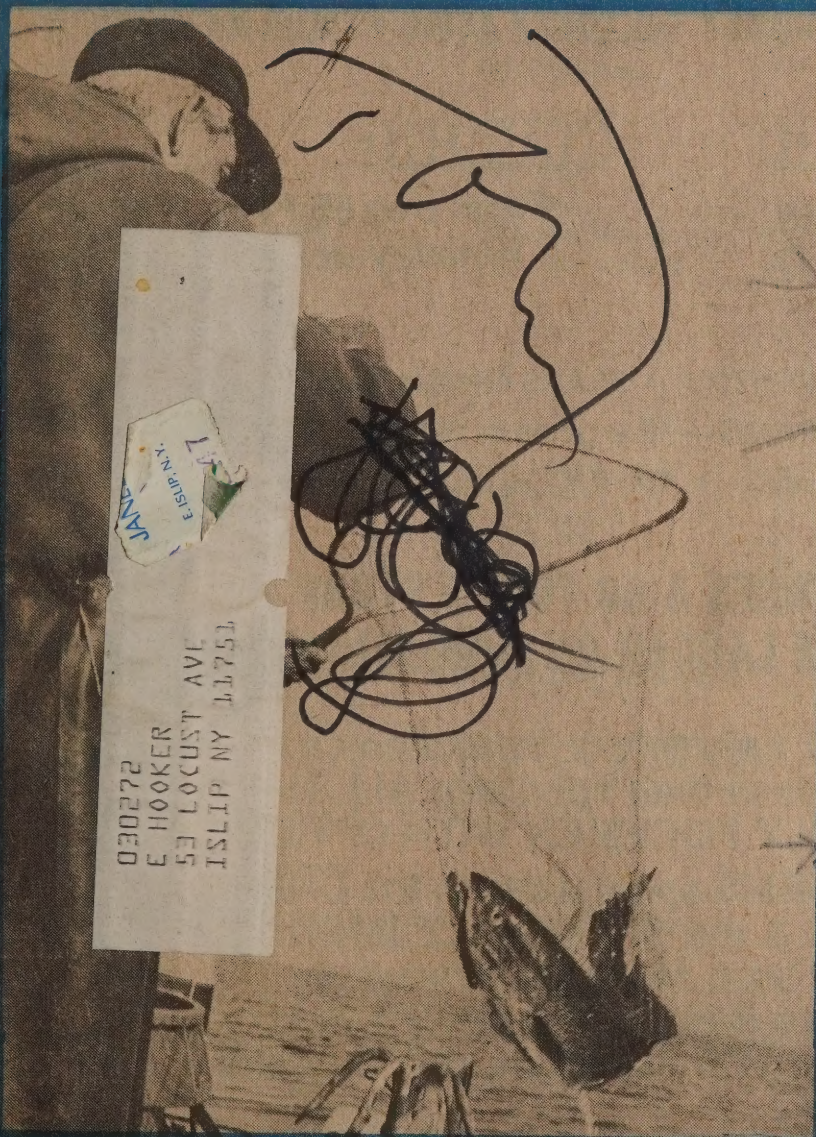


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FISHERMAN

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JUNE 2nd, 1977, ISSUE No. 20



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The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

VOL. 12, No. 20

JUNE 2nd, 1977

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About the Cover—

An angler nets a nice weakfish taken on a rubber worm in Great South Bay. Photo by Dick Mermon of the Shakespeare Corp.

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EDITORIAL

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Each year the weakfish spawn as inevitably as taxes are collected on the fifteenth of April. Likewise, each year the resource is exploited by commercial and sport fishing factions, and we at The Fisherman, are deluged with phone calls and letters. Many of our subscribers who have witnessed the catches of gill netters on the Great South Bay flats, have been appalled by what they have seen.

Last year our editorial on the subject was directed towards solving a problem, not eliminating an industry. We took the position, and still believe it to be correct, that gill netting per se, is not a threat to the weakfish resource. It would not be wise nor appropriate to put people out of work or respond to public outcry with legislation that cannot be supported on either social, economic, or biological grounds.

However, in earlier editorials, we have urged that state departments of environmental conservation adopt policies which represent sound management principles. When we were asked to offer examples, we pointed out that several obvious procedures would seem to reflect sound management. First, the bulk of the harvest of any fishery should come after the bulk of the spawning has been completed. Second, controls on fly-by-night commercial operations are essential since the casual commercial does no good for either sportsmen, commercial fishermen, or the species being harvested. Third, legal size limits should be determined by research data that indicates the year of the first spawning. Thus, if a fish spawns at twenty inches, then it should be illegal to harvest that fish by any manner when they are less than twenty inches.

These are just a few of many suggestions that we have offered on these pages during the past several years. We're not blowing our own horn, but we did think it necessary to offer a brief introduction to the following discussion. We don't want any eager do-gooders saying that The Long Island Fisherman has reversed its position and now claims that all commercial fishing is ecologically damaging and threatens the future existence of a species. We still stand on the opinions of past editorials.

The gill netting situation in Great South Bay violates several tenets offered in the above paragraphs and throws in a few extras to boot. Let's explore what has happened and what is likely to happen.

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has also heard the complaints of any outraged citizens. They have recently looked into the matter carefully, because they became increasingly aware that an abundant resource had created potential social and biological problems. It appears that many otherwise "normal" people develop weakfish mania when the fish are rolling on the flats. We just put down a letter from a sportfisherman who was fishing during the early evening for weaks. He finally connected, and tossed a marker buoy into the water to mark the location for the next drift. The angler had not even landed his weakfish before a gill netter dropped a big net next to the fisherman's marker buoy. When the sportfisherman returned to his marker to make another drift, the gill netters told the angler to get out of the area. There were words, bad words, but fortunately this time no violence; but we have heard of violence.

Thus, social conflict rears its ugly head as a factor resulting from people going berserk over an abundant resource. Many laws are designed to prevent social conflict. The main reason for the conflict on the flats is that the fish are highly visible during the evening spawning ritual, and thus a convergence of interests is inevitable without controls.

The DEC, under the guidance of Mr. Anthony Taormina, is drafting legislation that would deal specifically with the problems of reasonable management strategies and social conflict. Mr. Taormina called us on the phone for our views. He plans to consult with many interested and knowledgeable parties prior to drafting a bill. We advocated several points, which we hope are found in some form in the final, formal version.

First, the behavior of sportfishermen has changed. Many more anglers ply the waters during weekdays than ever before, and therefore, two-day, three-day, or weekend bans on gill netting would not effectively control social conflict. Furthermore, the weakfish do not confine their spawning to specific days of the week and, thus, any plan would have to be continuously, rather



than intermittently, applied.

Second, we believe that any bill should be inclusive of the waters of the New York Marine District. It would be senseless to control the Great South Bay flats only to find that the problem has been displaced to other waters. It is impossible to predict the future, and what is not a common practice in a body of water in 1977, has a way of becoming commonplace tomorrow.

Third, we suggested that a spawning season be established and that weakfish gill netting be prohibited during that season. The last three weeks in May would seem to be the "hot" period from our records. If the bulk of the spawning were completed by this time, then that season would seem to have some merit. Mr. Taormina pointed out that the season would have to apply to sportsmen as well, and he suggested a daily bag limit of several fish during the declared spawning season. We did not disagree, because we could find no logical argument against the idea.

Fourth, we suggested that several other practices be looked into even if their implementation might, by necessity, be down the road-aways. We have believed for sometime that the elimination of fly by night commercial operations is necessary to the fish, the sportfishermen, and the legitimate commercial fishermen. The fly by night boys have been a major factor in the pattern of pricing weakfish this season. The price is now around three cents a pound, which means that weakfish are not marketable. The price would be more stable if only legitimate commercial fishermen were engaged in the for-sale harvest. We recommend a \$500 license fee for a commercial fishing license. We have suggested this before: it will come today or tomorrow, but it will come because it has to come. Many commercial fishermen balk at the concept, but sooner or later, they will realize that they are making an investment in their own futures by eliminating the transient commercial fishermen. Another practice that should be examined is the proliferation of fish traps in the east end. If gill netting spawning fish might damage the resource, won't fish traps do the same? Do traps select only fish that have previously spawned? We have also warned about the proliferation of fish traps in the east end, and now authorities will be forced to take a very close look at the problem. This is good.

We will update this report for you in next week's issue, after we have had a chance to examine the DEC formal proposal.

And let's remember one thing. These measures represent an effort to apply reasonable management practices to a fishery, while at the same time, preventing social conflict. The weakfish, through it all, remains a cyclical fish and eventually the species will decline in numbers, for many reasons we already understand. It is nature's way; each creature in its turn, plays its part in the spotlight. In the end, it will be disease and eelgrass that will determine when the end of this cycle comes, but we applaud any effort that will allow that cycle to run its normal course.

William A. Zuller

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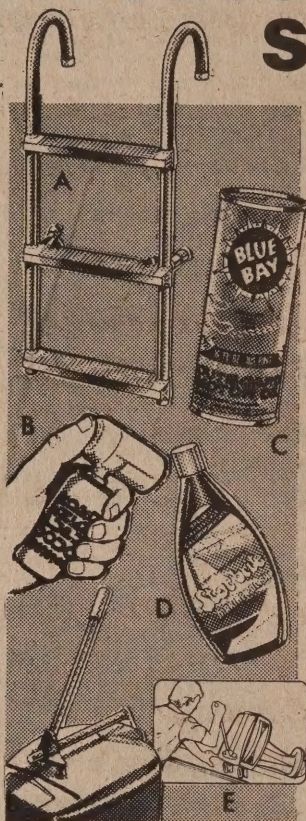
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**LEGISLATORS BACK-OFF ON
 PROPOSED MOTORBOAT REGISTRATION
 FEE RIP-OFF**

I am writing with regard to the interest you expressed in A.3752 relating increased registration fees on all recreational boats and unpowered sailboats over twelve feet.

This bill was unanimously held in the Transportation Committee at the May 17th meeting and it is most doubtful that it will come up again this year. I hope this information is helpful to you. If I can be of further assistance, please let me know. *Thomas R. Frey, Member of Assembly.*

We can't imagine why—perhaps the kitchen was getting too hot? Scott s.

AGREES WITH LIF S.O.S. POLICY

I have read your editorial of the May 26th issue regarding Gamefish Bill S4962, A. 7246; Sanctuary Bill S4964, A. 7255 and PCB Bill S4966, A. 7254.

I am glad to see that you oppose these bills proposed by S.O.S. I am also glad to see that there is someone as knowledgeable as yourself on this matter. I want to state that I and many others in Brooklyn agree with you 100 percent on all your viewpoints.

As in your previous editorials opposing the Saltwater License, or supporting the 200 Mile Limit, you always seem to be looking towards the interest of the public and not showing favoritism to any side.

It is because of informative and fair people as yourself that L.I.F. is such a tremendous success. *Capt. Don Ambrico*

**AWARDS FOR SEA ROBINS?
 LEGAL SEA RUN TROUT?**

About Dr. Muller's editorial in your May 19th issue: Yes, he's right! The flounder fisherman who brings home a five pounder should be recognized for his achievement. There is no reason for self-appointed purists to scoff at what is a fine catch for a specie—even if it isn't a "glamour fish." As the editor of the Salt Water Sportsman agreed in his response to Professor Coblenz' letter (June, 1977 issue), there should be no such thing as a "trash fish." Dr. Muller's editorial also serves as a supporting statement for all species caught through the wonderful sport of angling.

Then here's a question. On page 18 of the May 19th issue, your magazine devotes some space to your Skillful Angling Award. If LIF is to stand behind its editorials, shouldn't the guy who comes up with a whopper sea robin or a behemoth toadfish also get some recognition? After all, "who cares then whether this fish is a game fish, and this fish isn't—we're having fun aren't we?" Let's give some recognition to the guy

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The above statement was partly serious. In ALL seriousness though, I really enjoy your magazine. I think you're doing a great job helping the average "Joe" fisherman like me understand more about the magnificent ocean. Please keep up the fight to restrain us and our politicians from ruining it.

One more question. In the April 17th issue of The New York Times, Nelson Bryant stated that a fishing license is NOT required to fish the Nissequogue River north of the Landing Ave. Bridge. Then, in your May 19th issue, some guy called Fred says (on page 54) that you need a license to take ANY trout. If I'm fishing the downstream side of the Landing Ave. Bridge, do I need a license to catch trout? I have a license myself, but I have friends who want to try trout fishing once. Needless to say, they don't want to spend six bucks if they don't have to.

I would appreciate it if you can answer this question for me. If Dr. Muller is around, please give him my regards and tell him that I enjoy his articles both in LIF and the Salt Water Sportsman. William K. Akata, Huntington, N.Y.

We agree with your idea about weighing in sea robins, bergalls, etc., except for one thing: as these species usually are not eaten but for the few "enlightened" ones among us, a needless killing of fish may occur. As far as trout go, you can't be fined for releasing an unharmed fish, so play it safe—let 'em go so that the guy who shelled out his six bucks will have a shot at catching a nice trout. Scott S.

Pass It On...

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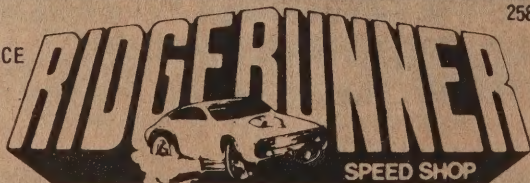
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NEW STRIPER CLUB BEING FORMED

This letter is to announce that the newly-formed Gateway Striper Club still has its books open for new members.

Meetings are held at 8:00 p.m. on the second (2nd) Thursday of each month at Gateway National Park, Building #125, Breezy Point, New York.

The next scheduled meeting will take place on Thursday, June 9, 1977.

Our first surf contest will be held in June.

Anyone who is interested can contact me, Ed Wolfe, evenings at (212) 327-8715.

FORMER ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE BUYS LUPO TACKLE

Rich Gabriel, former advertising and marketing executive, has purchased the Lupu Tackle Corporation of Long Island City, New York—manufacturers of a complete line of saltwater fishing lures. While the company will continue sellings its products under the Lupu and Danny trademarks, the corporate name has been changed to Sea Wolf Tackle, Inc.

Mr. Gabriel, a former Marine Corps Officer, and graduate of the Columbia University Graduate School of Business, has worked as an Account Executive at SSC&B and Ted Bates Advertising agencies in New York, and most recently was a Senior Product Manager, New Products Development at the General Foods Corporation. As the President of Sea Wolf, Mr. Gabriel feels that he can use many of the more sophisticated marketing and management tools of big business and apply them to a small manufacturing operation with good results.

A key objective in the marketing program at Sea Wolf this year is to increase the line's distribution throughout the New England and Middle Atlantic Regions, while continuing to provide top-notch service in the New York Metropolitan-Long Island areas. To accomplish this, Sea Wolf plans to run a strong advertising and publicity campaign throughout the Northeast during the entire 1977 sport fishing season. Additionally, Sea Wolf will be looking to secure high caliber representation of the line through established fishing tackle representatives.



RAMS ROD & REEL CLUB AT QUINCY
Rams Rod & Reel Club, Bronx, N.Y., held their first Quincy, Mass. fishing trip of 1977. The results were as follows:

Total flounders caught was 865 for 43 men, mixed bags of pollacks. Cod and eels were also caught. Largest codfish landed by Giaggi - 5½ pounds. Vito Faro lost a bigger one on top, at least they had a look at him. The pool fish caught by Steve Ezoch - 2½ pound flounder. It was a tossup as to what boat caught the most. Boat #6 - Cosmo, Biaggi, Mario and Al had upwards of 150 and Boat #8 - L. Galgano, C. Galgano, R. Rao and B. Bettell, upwards of 170.

On behalf of the Rams Rod & Reel Club, we thank all participants and are looking forward to seeing you on our next trip.

GARBAGE MEN SCORE AT QUINCY
Some 44 Department of Sanitation

men, from District 20, Bronx, reeled in over 2000 big flounders, some pollack, and cod, from Quincy, Mass., Sunday May 15th. The successful bus trip was arranged by Ralph Rohr and Eugene Schepper. A novice fisherman, Carl Gonzales, excited by his first "hit" lost his balance and fell overboard. As his partner, Frank Schaustal reached to grab Carl, Frank also went over. Fortunately a nearby boat, captained by Angelo Stangas, quickly rescued both novices. During this unusual mishap, Gonzales held onto his pole and returned to the boat with a 12 pound cod still hooked. Schaustal lost his pole and false teeth.

The group is looking forward to another trip.

Everything about the new Apelco Depth Finders reads well. Including the price.

The MS-160 and MS-162 have piercing yellow LED flasher displays that read crystal clear even in strong daylight. The instrument faces are clearly calibrated for more accurate reading: the MS-160 from 0-60 feet, the dual range MS-162 from 0-60 and 0-120 feet.

Both read the bottom well, too, with the accuracy and clarity to tell fish from bottom structures.

The MS-160 and MS-162 feature light, portable units. Rugged, splash-proof cases. All solid-state components and integrated circuitry. Plus,

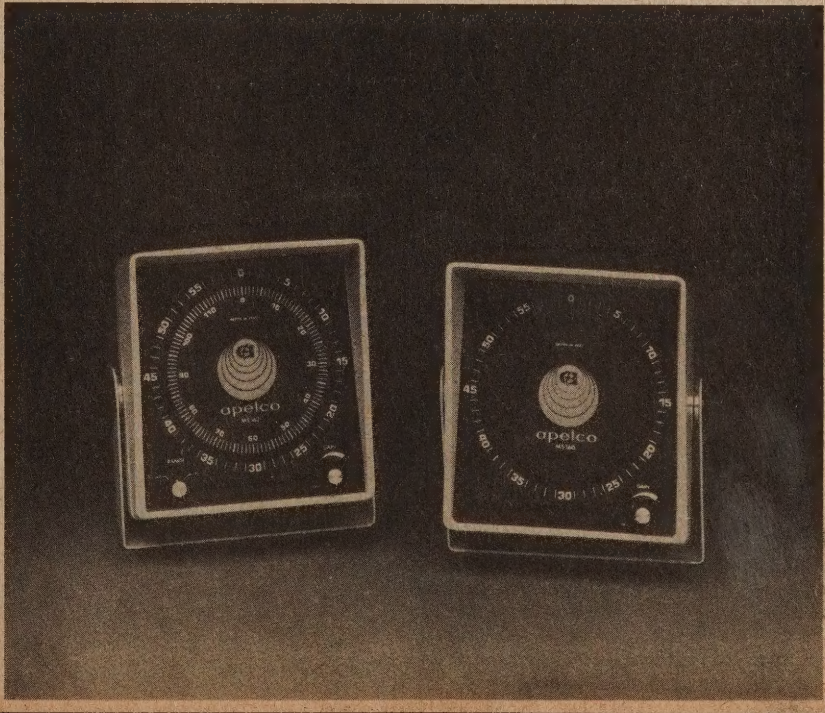


a two year warranty. And that warranty makes very reassuring reading, indeed.

The easiest thing to read about the new Apelco Depth Finders is the price. Look it up at your dealers soon.



Apelco Marine Electronics.
Available through leading marine dealers everywhere.
Manchester, New Hampshire 03103



Fish Talk

with Dr. W.A. Muller

FLUKE

Paralichthys dentatus

★ PART TWO ★

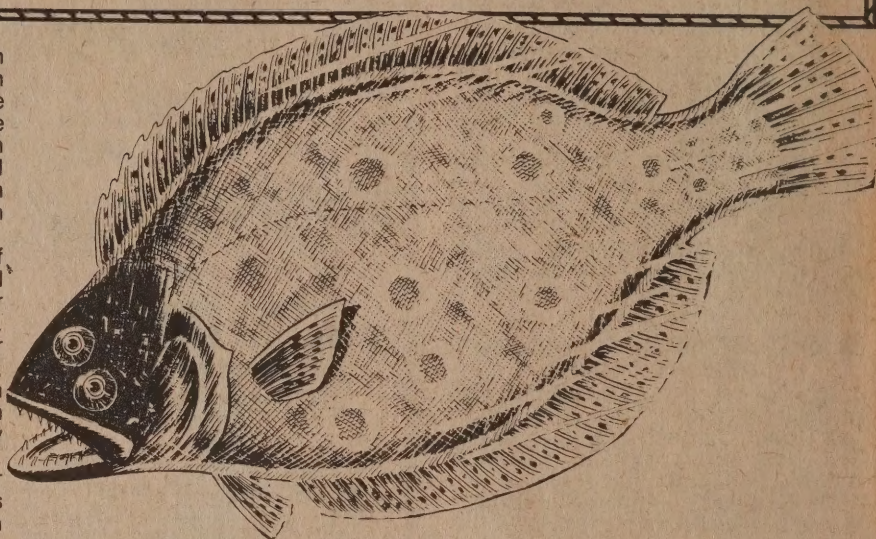
Fluke, summer flounder, northern fluke, doormat fluke, and just plain flounder, are all names for the same beast. When you travel towards the southern end of the range of this fish (Carolinas), the local residents will simply call this fish a "flounder." In northern states, fluke is the most often used term.

FLUKE BELONG TO THE order of fishes known as Pleuronectiformes and this group includes the winter flounder too. But that's where the similarity ends. Fluke are in the family Bothidae, or left-eye flounders. Like other flatfish, the bottom—or ventral side—of the fish is white. Top-side, they range from brown to brownish-grey, to dusky brown-olive, with a number of blotches. The mottlings may be tan, grey, or black. The average number of spots is about ten to twelve and they range in size markedly. Fluke have large mouths that contain many sharp triangular teeth. However, the angler rarely has trouble with fish that bite through monofilament leaders because there are large spaces between the teeth. Fishing line may get pretty roughed-up after a days fishing, but the teeth of a fluke are not designed for chopping. The teeth of bluefish, for example, interdigitate so when a blue bites down, it severs whatever is in-between.

THE TEETH OF A FLUKE ARE FOR GRASPING! Fluke will swim after, and pounce on its prey. The sharp teeth will penetrate the bait and give the fluke a good hold. Then the fluke can chew its way along until the entire prey is in the mouth cavity. For this reason, seasoned fluke fishermen always allow a biting fluke the opportunity to chew awhile before striking.

FLUKE ARE NARROWER THAN BLACKBACK FLOUNDERS! The more active life style of fluke require that these fish have evolved differently than some other flatfish, and have adapted to the role of a predator. The narrower body is more streamlined, which reduces the resistance of the water while swimming. In addition, fluke have more blood vessels in their muscles to bring more food and oxygen to the muscles and take away waste products faster. For that reason, larger fluke have a dark meat strip that runs from head to tail along the middle of the body just like bass, blues, and other predators. The dorsal fin is found on the side opposite to the eyes, and has 85 to 94 fin rays; while the anal fin has between 60 and 73 rays. The tail is broad and rounded for power.

THE MASTER OF A THOUSAND DISGUISES! The pigment cells in the skin of a fluke are remarkable. They can produce a wide range of tints and hues. Camouflage is an essential part of this



fish's attack arsenal. It has the ability to blend into almost any kind of bottom, from light sand to pebbles and rocks. The list of tints is impressive: buff-sand, grey, blue, green, orange, pink, brown, and almost black. Furthermore, the fish can match texture patterns on the bottom, too, by the distribution of various blotch sizes from coarse to fine.

FLUKE COME BIG! I'll never forget a sign that hung from the dock of a famous fluke party boat. It read "Big Fluke," which in and of itself is not a terribly exciting story. Except to back-up its claim, the captain had hung the numerous skeletons of huge doormats that his fares had taken in recent days. The average size taken by rod and reel is about two to three pounds; but five pound fish are very common, and fish of ten to fifteen pounds are caught frequently enough in some waters that anglers may elect to fish with big baits exclusively in an effort to catch them. Several fish around twenty pounds have been caught in the last five years. The biggest fish that we know about was taken at Montauk, N.Y., by Captain Charles Nappi and it weighed 22 pounds and six ounces!

FLUKE HAVE A GOURMET'S DIET!

They eat squid, shrimp, lobster, soft-shell crabs, and young fish, such as weaks, seabass, and even bluefish. I wonder if they like their shrimp scampi or stuffed? Ah, but they also humble themselves to eat more mundane items such as killies, spearing, herring, and mossbunker. Mossbunker? How can bunker compare to lobster Fra Diavolo? Probably the mainstay of these fish's diet during their stay in shallow water are sand eels. Sand eels are common over much of the range of the fluke.

THE TWO-PRONG ATTACK STRATEGY! Fluke attack their prey via two means: pursuit and ambush. Where the

bottom is more or less uniform sand, they will chase bait, lunging off the bottom as food swims or drifts by. Where there are rocks, troughs, bars, and eddies, they'll lurk against the structure waiting for the tide to carry something towards them. On these occasions, they will not swim far away from their position. If the bait is carried away too swiftly, they will return to a position of ambush. The wise fisherman, therefore, knows something about the bottom that he's fishing. A quick drift may be preferred on sand, while a slow drift is the best bet when the bottom is rough.

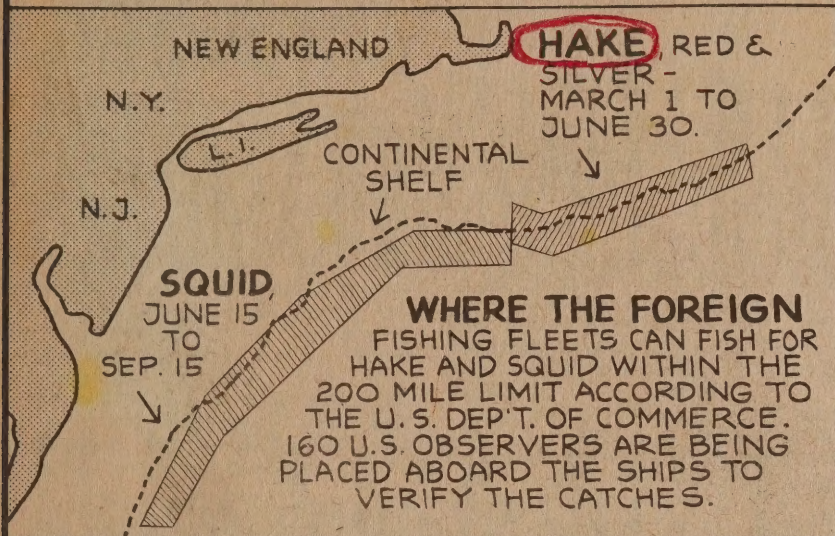
SIZE TO WEIGHT RATIOS. As fluke grow older, they begin to add less length and more girth. The weight of fish that are between 14 and 20 inches will not vary tremendously. A fifteen to sixteen inch fish, for example, will usually weigh in-between one pound and a pound-and-a-quarter. An eighteen inch fish will weigh about two-and-three-quarters, and three pounds. On the other hand, a thirty inch fluke will weigh ten pounds, and a thirty-seven inch fish will weigh a whopping twenty pounds!

FLUKE ARE EVERYWHERE! The last couple of years these fish have been taken in almost every body of water throughout its range, from Maine to the Carolinas. Some fishermen have even reported catching them in rivers well inland where the salt content of the water was negligible. Inlets are always a favorite fluke haunt because strong currents usually make catching prey a lot easier. But tidal creeks have produced their share of fish, too, and fishermen eagerly seeking porgies in very shallow, sheltered waters have been surprised by fluke, and some of them quite respectable!

Next week: Life Cycle.

FISHING NEWS

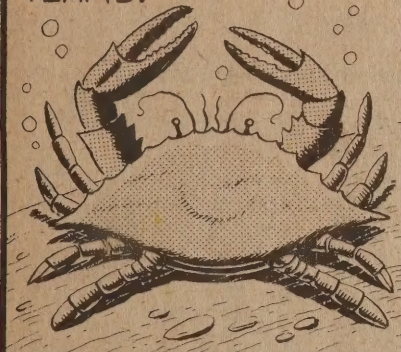
BY FRED
GUARDINEER



THE U.S. COAST GUARD CONTINUES TO MONITOR THE EMERGENCY MARINE RADIO FREQUENCY 2182 KILOHERTZ (KHZ) DESPITE RUMORS TO THE CONTRARY. 2182 IS MONITORED 24 HOURS PER DAY IN THE NORTHEAST FROM NEW HAVEN, CONN. TO CAPE MAY, N.J.



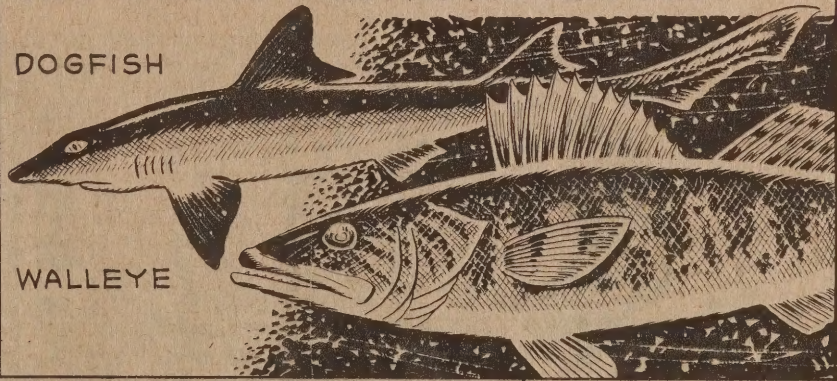
80% OF THE CRABS IN CHESAPEAKE BAY WERE KILLED DURING THE PAST WINTER ACCORDING TO MARYLAND UNIVERSITY SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH TEAMS.



TAGGING RECORDS WERE MADE BY A SALTWATER DOGFISH AND A FRESHWATER, WALLEYED PIKE. THE DOGFISH, TAGGED OFF LONG ISLAND WAS RECOVERED (DEAD) OFF SWEDEN. THE WALLEYE SWAM AROUND IN CHENANGO LAKE, N.Y. FOR 19 YEARS AND WAS 23 YEARS OLD WHEN RECENTLY NETTED AND RELEASED.

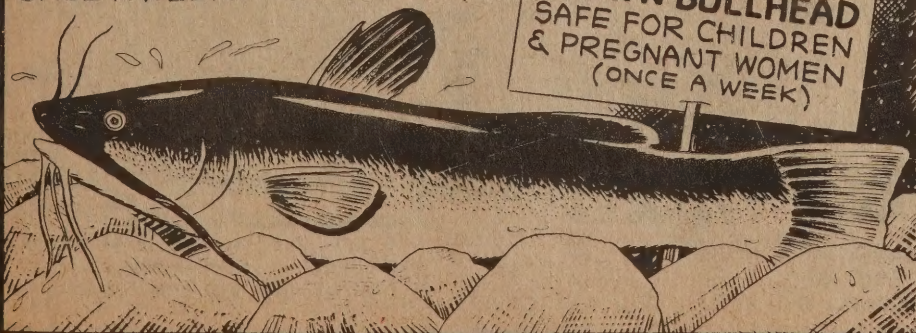
DOGFISH

WALLEYE



BECAUSE OF MIREX & KEPONE IN LAKE ONTARIO BROWN TROUT OVER 18" AND RAINBOWS OVER 25" SHOULD NOT BE EATEN, WARNS THE N.Y. STATE HEALTH DEPT. NO ONTARIO FISH SHOULD BE EATEN MORE THAN ONCE A WEEK AND NONE BY CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN. THE EXCEPTION IS A BROWN BULLHEAD DINNER ONCE A WEEK!

BROWN BULLHEAD
SAFE FOR CHILDREN
& PREGNANT WOMEN
(ONCE A WEEK)



NORTH AMERICAN BAIT FARMS OF ONTARIO, CANADA IS OFFERING \$ 500.00 FOR THE BEST EARTH WORM RECIPE. THEY CAN BE BAKED IN COOKIES, ADDED TO CASSEROLES AND SPRINKLED ON SALADS!



The Long Island FISHERMAN'S SKILLFUL ANGELING AWARD ★



MINIMUM WEIGHTS FOR SPECIES

The minimum acceptance weights for anglers to receive a Skillful Angling Award and patch are:

FLOUNDER	2	STRIPED BASS	25
FLUKE	6	BLUEFISH	10
PORGY	3	WEAKFISH	7
BLACKFISH	6	POLLACK	18
COD	25	SEA BASS	3

Here's how the program works. When you catch a fish that you think may weigh more than the minimum requirement for that species (see the inset), take it to one of the weigh-stations listed below to have it officially weighed-in. If it meets the requirements, a post card will be filled out and signed by the proprietor and given to you to mail to The Fisherman. When we receive the card and it is verified, a "Skillful Angling Award" certificate will be made out with the information from the card and sent with the patch directly to you from the offices of the Fisherman. That's it!

AMAGANSETT

Promised Land Fishing Station

AMITYVILLE

George Comb's Bait & Tackle

Jona's Bait & Tackle

AQUEBOGUE

Warren's Tackle

BABYLON

Augie's Bait & Tackle

Hi-Hook Fishing Station

BAYSHORE

Snokey's Bait & Tackle

BALDWIN

Arthur Street Marina

BELLMORE

Merrick Marine Supply

BROOKLYN

Bay End Dock

Salvo's Bait & Tackle

STELLA MARIS

BRONX

J.J. Burck, Inc.

John's Gun & Tackle

Shelter Cove Marina

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Bait & Tackle

FREEMONT

Frank's Marina

Hook Line and Sinker

MAKO MARINA

HAMPTON BAYS

Corr's Fishing Station

Frank's Fishing Station

HOWARD BEACH

Crossbay Bait & Tackle

HUNTINGTON

Four Winds Bait & Tackle

Frank Braddick Tackle Shop

Ronnie's Bait & Tackle

E. ISLIP

Starfish Marine

Wet-A-Line Bait & Tackle

LINDENHURST

Charlie's Bait & Tackle

LYNBROOK

Beckman's Tackle

MASSAPEQUA

Massapequa Tackle & Sports

MONTAUK

Cove Marina

Star Island Yacht Club

MILLER PLACE

Dick's Sporting Goods

E. MORICHES

Silly Lily Fishing Station

Tadsen's Fishing Station

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station

NORTHPORT

Bowman's Sporting Goods

PT. LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station

Eddie's Marine

Jim's Tackle Haven

Long Island Sea Clam

PORT WASHINGTON

Manhasset Bay Sportsman Club

ROCKY POINT

Nick's Bait & Tackle

Rocky Pt. Fishing Stop

FAR ROCKAWAY

Eddie's Marine

SAG HARBOR

Noyac Marina

SAYVILLE

American Sportsman Shop

SELDEN

ANGLER'S Den

SEAFORD

Salice Boat Basin

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt Fishing Station

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop

WEST SAYVILLE

South Bay Fishing Station

CLUB NEWS

1977 MOORINGS YACHT CLUB CRUISE AND FISHING SCHEDULES

Flounder Tournament, April 23rd - \$5;
Weakfish, Fluke Tournament, May 21st
- \$5; Moorings Fleet Blessing, May 30th;
Fire Island Spring Mini-Cruise, June
10th, 11th and 12th; Moorings Annual
Shark Tournament, June 18th - \$25;
South Shore Marlin Tournament, July
9th - \$25; Moorings Annual Cruise, July
15th-24th; Freeport Tuna Tournament,
August 6th; Moorings Annual Rodeo
Tournament, September 3rd - \$20;
Frostbite Cruise, September 30th, Oct.
1st and 2nd; Bluefish/Striped Bass
Tournament, October 8th - \$10, and
Codfish Tournament, November 19th
-\$5.

All Moorings residents and their guest
anglers are invited to participate in these
tournaments and cruises.

Moorings Anglers Committee

Harry Granoff
George Koleda

Bob Teisch
Gary Bornholt
Henry Boothe
Sam Emmerman
Ray Ford
Jim Varga

Moorings Yacht Club Officers

Harry Granoff, Commodore
Jim Varga, Fleet Captain
Ira Schneider, Fleet Surgeon
Rene Dumeng, Rear Commodore

FREE BOATING COURSES IN JUNE

Four boating-related courses will be
held at the Northport Jr. High School,
Northport, sponsored by the Northport
Flotilla 22-2, of the U.S. Coast Guard
Auxiliary.

Registration will be on Wednesday,
June 1st, at 8:15 p.m. Classes for each
course will be held on Wednesdays from
8:00 to 10:00 PM, for three weeks
starting June 8th.

The following courses are offered:

Coastal Navigation: Includes piloting by
dead reckoning...how to read charts and
tide tables...the most reliable way to
determine a boat's position...forecasting
tide depths and more.

Crewing and Cruising: Covers princi-

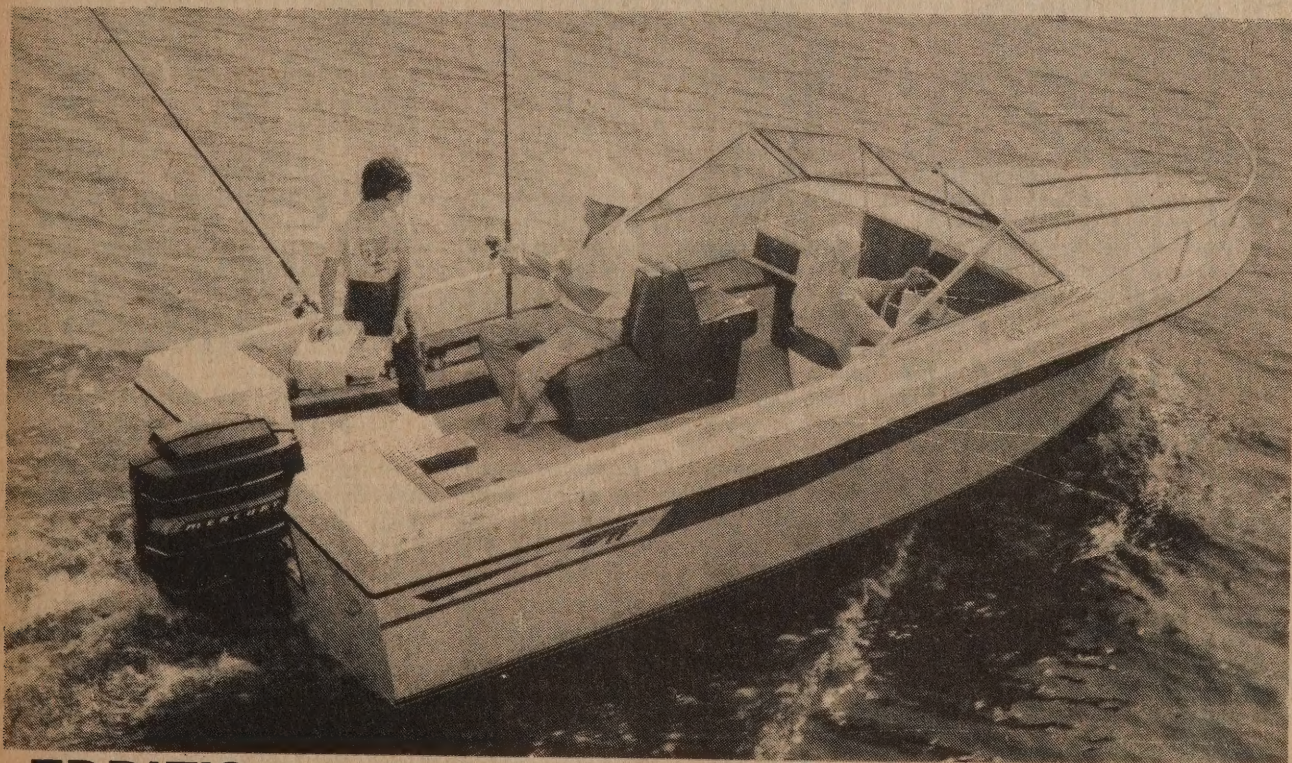
ples of safe boating under power and
sail...knowledge needed to deal with
emergencies and other boating situa-
tions.

Marlinspike Seamanship: How to tie
lines and various knots...includes instru-
ction and practice in making knots,
splices; worming and parceling.

N.Y. State Young Boatman's Course:
Covers basic safe boating principles and
skills. Students reaching 10 years of age
by Oct. 1st and not yet 16, will be eligible
to earn N.Y. State Safety Certificate as
required by N. Y. State Navigation Law.

The courses are given without charge
except for a nominal fee for materials
used for Coastal Navigation and Marlins-
pike Seamanship.

Further information may be obtained
by calling 261-7989 or 427-8583.



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MARINE SERVICE CORP.
At Atlantic Beach Bridge, Lawrence
(212) 327-3168

Grady-White's rugged, versatile
raised deck "200" Dolphin outboard
and "201" Marlin inboard/outdrive.

Two superlative, V-design cabin boats now on display!



FISHERMAN PUBLICATIONS

At last! Books on local fish written by local fishermen for local fishermen! The books below are the first three in a series of 20+ being published by The Fisherman for our readers. Order today!

*2.95

FISHING FOR FLOUNDER

by Dr. William A. Muller



FISHING FOR FLOUNDER

Here it is at last, hot off the presses! The first book EVER to be printed exclusively on techniques for catching the winter flounder. Separate chapters cover topics such as baits to use, rigging-up, scientific information, chumming techniques, how to locate flounder, fishing techniques—all in greater detail than ever before! Also an entire chapter on how to clean and cook this table favorite and an extremely detailed "Where-To-Go" section that provides fishing maps, seasons, hotspots, baits and rigs to use in each area! Ninety-six pages fully illustrated with photographs and artwork by The Fisherman's own Fred Guardineer. Send for your copy today!

Only \$2.95 plus \$.25 pp. & hdlg.

*2.95

FISHING FOR FLUKE

by Scott Simons



FISHING FOR FLUKE by Scott Simons

The first book EVER published exclusively on how to catch fluke! Contains complete chapters on *Tackle, Equipment, Rigging-Up, Natural Baits, Bottom Formations, Drifting, Trolling, Chumming and Artificial*. Illustrated with over 85 photographs & diagrams. 112 pgs.

*2.95 Plus \$.25 pp. & hdlg.

*2.50

FISHING FOR WEAKFISH

by Dr. William A. Muller



FISHING FOR WEAKFISH by Dr. William A. Muller

The first *all-new* book to be published exclusively on catching weakfish in more than 25 years! Chapters devoted to *Tackle, Artificial Lures, Natural Baits*, and an in-depth *Where-To-Go* Section! Illustrated w/70 photos & dia. 80 pages.

*2.50 Plus \$.25 pp. & hdlg.

Send Check or
Money Order to:



The
FISHERMAN

P.O. Box 1994
Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963
516-725-4200

The beginning of June launches the surfcaster's opportunity to land some lunker bass from Long Island waters. Prior to this date, the local beaches generally produce only school fish, although the latter part of May should show signs of a few larger bass caught by fishermen around the island.

The month of June also brings more widespread weakfish activity as they penetrate waters other than Great South Bay. Blues, which in the past have made their initial appearance about May 20th, will be invading coastal waters preying upon just about anything that moves.

Before I go any further, let me state that this information is taken from the past several years' experiences. What lies in store for us in '77, is anyone's guess; but I tend to believe after surveying the past year's success, that we could find ourselves hard pressed to achieve any great results. So, with a flicker of hope in our hearts, we will approach the first big month of the fledgling season determined to give it a good effort and who knows, we might be pleasantly surprised.

Let's begin with the western south shore. Breezy Point and the adjacent beaches to the east should produce some stripers, using sandworms on fishfinder rigs. Lately, fresh dead bunker heaved out from the jetties along the Rockaways have produced exceptional catches of cow bass. This method should be productive all along this shore on out to Point Lookout, because the configuration of the shore front is basically the same. The key to this fishing is that the bunker should be freshly dead, and not previously frozen.

Heavy white bucktails bounced along the bottom from the larger inlet jetties, is a proven method for hooking bass at this time. Stout equipment is needed when fishing these swift currents. The bucktail should be of sufficient weight to allow it to readily sink to the sand, where it is worked down-tide with frequent twitches of the rod tip. The most favored jetties are found at Breezy Point, Atlantic Beach, Jones Beach West End, and Shinnecock.

From Point Lookout east through Fire Island to Shinnecock Inlet, mackerel, bunker, clams, and sandworms, have scored impressively when fished on the bottom, using any of the standard bottom rigs. Here again, if fresh bunker is available, give it a try over any frozen bait you may possess. The Cedar Beach, Gilgo, and East Jones Beach areas are prime spots at this time. While eels are considered a good Fall bait, impressive landings of cow bass have been made at these locations using snakes in the Spring.

Before we leave the Great South Bay area, let me point out that the inlets, cuts, and channels have received their influx of bass, willing to take either fresh bunker or your smaller swimming plugs.

At Montauk, we find that we have a choice of methods. Some may prefer the leisurely way, using sandworms on the fishfinder rig after dark. Favorite areas include Rocky Point and adjacent areas, or Turtle Cove and the south side beaches from Ditch Plains to the west. Others, who like to work harder can plug the north side from Jones Reef through North Bar around the rocky areas to Shagwong. Smaller plugs and, therefore, lighter tackle is the general rule at this time, with Rebel and RedFin floaters being the most favored. A check with Johnny at Kronuch's Tackle on your way through town, will reveal the most productive method at that particular time. Sandworms should be brought from the western Island, as they are hard to come by at the Point.

The eastern North Shore has its share of bass along the beaches during the month of June. Mackerel and bunker fished on the bottom, or the Rebel and RedFin swimmers worked among the rocks at various points are successful for hard-working surfcasters.

Wading River, Shoreham and the Mt. Misery area have proven to harbor quantities of fine stripers at this time.

The further west one travels, the more difficult it is to

gain access to the prime fishing locations. With the towns starting to check resident permits at their respective Town Beaches, and the exclusive villages preventing outsiders from parking on their streets, anyone not residing in the chosen fishing area will have to have a friend, or train in secret service techniques.

Cranes Neck, Eatons Neck, Lloyd Point, Center Island, and each point of land up to the City line, are all potential hotspots for fishermen lucky enough to gain admittance. These boulder-strewn points are more suitable for the use of plugs, rather than attempting to fish bottom. Here, as with the rocky areas of Montauk, be sure to use the pencil sinkers as they are less likely to hang up. Keep in mind that the striped bass is called rockfish down the Chesapeake way; so its normal haunts are among the rocks and boulders, rather than on sterile sandy beaches.

Those of you who insist upon fishing bottom in this general area, would do well to investigate Crabmeadow, nearby Makamah, and Callahans Beaches. Public beaches to the west, such as Stehli and Prybil are also good spots. While the usual mackerel and bunker are utilized, your bait selection should lean towards the use of sandworms.

The Nissequogue and Stony Brook Inlets are popular fishing spots in these waning Spring evenings. While most anglers prefer the use of artificials—such as small swimming plugs or whiptails—sandworms take a good share of the bass in these estuaries. Because of the swift flow of water encountered here, the boat fishermen have a distinct advantage, especially when drifting a sandworm on the outgoing tide.

Year after year, the Huntington Bay area yields generous amounts of lunker bass during the month of June. The problem is that this feat is accomplished almost exclusively by our brothers in the boats.

The weakfish is the second species we will dwell on. The inlet areas such as Rockaway, Jones, and Fire Island, start producing now on bucktails and small swimming plugs, while further east Shinnecock Canal has had fantastic weakfish action in the past. No special equipment is required; just bring your rod and reel, and fish out of the trunk of your car. The most popular lure remains the plastic shrimp, but swimming plugs and bucktails will also work well.

Cow Neck Point on Peconic Bay is a spot not too well known; but some investigation could let you in on the good action which has taken place here in the past. Then again, you have the north side of Montauk, where there was a virtual slaughter during 1975. The favored lures in Montauk are the five-inch versions of floating RedFins or Rebels, where you work the tide in conjunction with the bars—the same as when fishing for bass. In fact, the past years have seen these two game fish eagerly vying for the slowly-retrieved plug, with the bass addict cursing the weaks as the spotted plague.

The Long Island Sound beaches have not been left out with the return of the weakfish. While I have only encountered them incidental to the bass, the same locations bass occupy are potential grounds for these spotted game fish. Here again, the standard smaller swimming plugs are a prime enticement, but on one occasion last year, we discovered weaks under a school of surfacing bluefish when inadvertently our popping plugs were allowed to sink before retrieving.

If catching weaks is of main concern to you, let me recommend Doc Muller's book on this species, available from the "Long Island Fisherman." Many tips of importance are included here which would normally take a beginner and old-timer alike, many years to acquire.

Bluefish, as most of you already know, are hard to pin down. They normally hit the south shore in the vicinity of Pt. Lookout around the third week of May, and I've had them at Makamah a week later. Last year was pretty much of a disaster in this category, although a large school of small blues plied the waters around the Sore Thumb for several days in June, providing us shore-bound anglers fast action when the school moved within range.

Cedar Beach fishermen take monster blues while fishing bait for bass. The preferred bait in this instance is mostly chunks or fillets of mackerel or bunker. Although bluefish will take an eel without hesitation, it can be an expensive proposition. If the blues are present in force, your supply of eels will be reduced to dead halves in short order.

Democrat, Shinnecock, and The Light at Montauk, can

(Continued on page 17.)

Surf Side

with John Fritz

June Prospects



Poets ask: "What is so rare as a day in June?" As a fisherman—and with sincere apologies to poets everywhere—I'd say the answer to this lyrical question is quite simple: it has been my experience that it is a rare day in June when local fluke fishermen fail in their pursuit of this extremely popular fish.

The other day I quoted this to a non-fisherman and he asked why I was so certain of my convictions.

Well ... as my fishing buddies know, I'm a great guy for keeping records of all my fishing trips. There in black-and-white is proof positive that I've caught an awful lot of fluke in June. Unquestionably, June is an excellent month for fluke.

This is the month hordes of fluke enter local bays, eager to leave chilly surroundings behind. My records tell me that it isn't until July when fishing along ocean beaches and around inlets pays off—and this is what I go by. These records have not steered me wrong yet.

Discounting the throw-backs, most June fluke are of average size—one-and-a-half to two pounds, with an occasional three pounder to keep it interesting. True doormats, those fish ten pounds and over, can't be counted upon with any degree of certainty before August; but the possibility of latching onto a five or six pounder during June, is ever-present.

These newly-arrived fluke are famished and will go anywhere necessary to satisfy that ever-present hunger. I've hooked them in thirty feet of water, while drifting through Reynold's Channel in Island Park, and the next day have caught them in eighteen inches of water, while shore fishing near the Montauk Highway Bridge at Hampton Bays. Like gold, June fluke are where you find them.

Selecting tackle for these early fluke is no problem. To my mind, though, nothing beats a medium-weight spinning rod. When coupled with a matching reel holding at least 100 yards of good quality 15 pound test monofilament, fishermen are guaranteed sport to the Nth degree.

There are anglers, however, who use light spinning outfits, and they swear by their selection. I suppose it all

depends on individual choice; but because I've seen excited fishermen lose large fluke at boat-side when this light tackle was used, I believe it's best to stick with the heavier stuff.

A bank sinker of sufficient weight to hold the rig on bottom while drifting and jigging is needed. I can't tell you the exact weight to use. This depends much upon where the fishing is being done: current strength, rate of drift, wind, etc., enters into it.

Weight, though, will range from two to four ounces—rarely less, and seldom more. When using medium-weight tackle, this is no problem. But when lighter stuff is used, any sinker over two ounces will place a strain on the tip. Should a good-sized fluke take hold, the angler is going to have his work cut out for him. Better to use the heavier stuff, which is certain to offer better control.

Using the proper rig for fluke separates the men from the boys—literally! Let me explain exactly what I mean.

My first experience with fluke was aboard a party boat back in the late twenties, off Sandy Hook. As any old-timer will tell you, this was the fluke paradise of the New York Bight. Now, not only had I never seen a fluke before, I had never heard of one. So help me, it's true. This shows you what kind of a dumb kid I was. Until then, my party boat experience had been strictly ling and whiting. My "fluke" tackle that day consisted of a tarred drop line, an eight-ounce diamond sinker, and a 4/0 Sproat hook wrapped on a ten-inch length of tarred snell. Pretty crude, eh?

This, of course, was the standard ling and whiting rig of the time, and up until then, these were the only fish I had caught aboard a party boat. As I had always been successful using this rig, I figured it would work on any fish. To my shame, I didn't even know that each specie of fish demanded its own proper rig-up.

By using this offbeat rig, it took me a good two hours to land six fluke. Now, you might say that six fluke in two hours isn't really bad fishing. But remember, this was during the times when any party boat angler who failed to nail thirty or forty fluke in a day's fishing wasn't considered much of a fisherman. I kid you not.

I have always felt there was a good possibility I would have ended that particular day with my six lonely fluke if the skipper hadn't noticed my fishing methods. He asked what in hell I thought I was doing. Where was my leader? Leader? What was that? His answer was a gift of a three-foot length of catgut(?) and a silk wrapped 4/0 Sproat on a ten-inch snell. With this, I managed to finish the day with an additional seventeen fluke.

This may seem a long-winded way of getting across the

Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

JUNE FLUKE

Part One

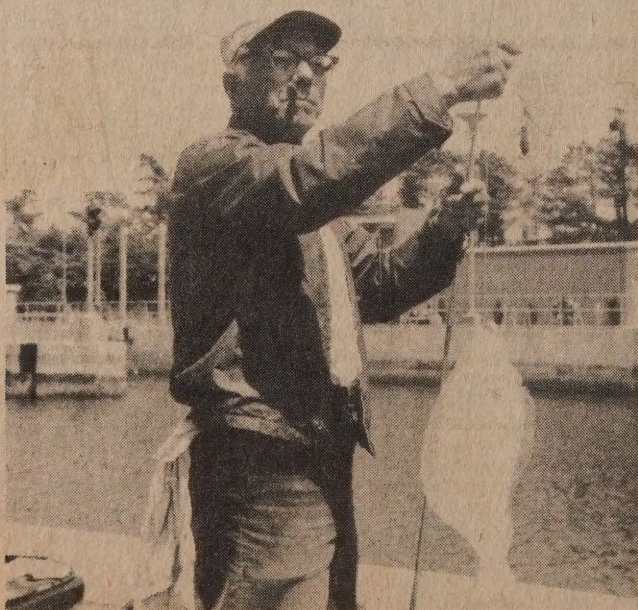


Photo #1—Experienced fishermen use simple rigs.



Photo #2—and they have no trouble putting fluke in the bucket.

point that proper rigging is extremely important when fluke fishing; but there is good reason for this.

As you can see, in those long-gone days, it wasn't difficult to catch fluke—my six fish on a ling and whiting rig proves that. I believe the explanation for this is simple. There were so many fish available, competition for food was fierce. Without a doubt, this forced the fluke to latch onto anything that moved, no matter how badly it was presented.

It's no secret that there are fewer fluke today. Even with the great comeback being made in recent years, it is still a far cry from fifty years ago, no matter what you've been told. Therefore, with fewer fish, there is less competition for the available food. Which means that fluke need no longer throw caution to the wind in order to satisfy that ever-lasting hunger. They can pick and choose. And you better believe this: they can be annoyingly choosy.

Therefore, it is the smart fluke fisherman who realizes that only **proper** rigging will succeed today.

As fluke seem always willing to cooperate with the experimenting fisherman, they are great targets for the advanced angler: and because of this, most fluke fishermen have tried their hand at rig experimentation at one time or another. I'm one fisherman who falls into this category—I've dreamed up some beauts over the years.

All of these brainstormers have caught fish for me, though I must admit some have been more successful than others. Therefore, if you aren't already a fluke fiend, I'm sure it's only a matter of time before the bug bites you, and you'll be experimenting, too.

For these experimental purposes, you can try leaders from eighteen to thirty-six inches, and any measurement between. You can use hooks as small as 1/0 to as large as 6/0 and catch fluke under certain conditions. You can make up rigs that employ stinger hooks. Space limitations prevent me from going into this "suicide" rig, but Scott Simons' book, "Fishing for Fluke," gives step-by-step instructions on how to do this quickly and easily. In other words, you have much leeway as long as you stay within the basic requirements. But don't let this throw you. Actually, this is nothing more elaborate than a length of leader material and a hook.

But let me caution you against the pitfall of most beginning rig-makers. Keep it simple! And don't use fluke spinners when tying rigs for bay fluke!

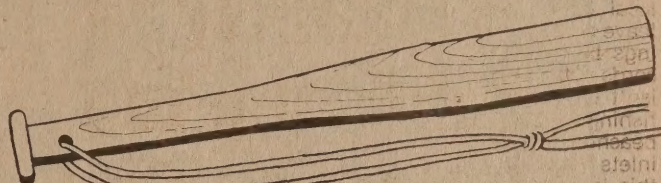
Spinners are very attractive—to the fisherman! But for some reason, bay fluke don't dote upon them as well as you might expect. Sure, I know fishermen catch fluke with these flashers, but take my word for it: you'll do better without them. Use them for the ocean beaches and inlets later in the season if you must, but leave them in your tackle box when bay fishing. You'll catch more fluke if you do.

In fact, take a tip from master fluke fishermen and don't

use spinners at all. There are many reasons for success with fluke, but the most important is this: always be sure your bait is presented in a natural-like manner. Using heavy fluke spinners will not only anchor your bait, but more important, it robs it of its natural movement—especially when live baits such as killies are used.

If you strive to present your bait in the most natural-like way, you're more certain of success. It is only natural-appearing baits that prove irresistible to fluke. Especially is this true today when the supply of food, as noted, is greater than the demand. This is why fluke no longer find it necessary to accept poorly presented bait. Make no mistake about it: present-day fluke fishermen must be on the ball.

Next week we'll go into more detail on this, and also discuss rigging, baits, and methods of fishing.



SurfSide: June Prospects

(Continued from page 15.)

provide dawn and dusk action, with the ebb tide more productive at Shinnecock Inlet. At times such as this, your popping plugs and tins can be used to advantage.

As far as the north shore of the Island is concerned, any stretch of beach is a possibility; with the rise and setting of the sun your best bet, when boat traffic is at a minimum. The consistent action found in past years, such as was found at Mt. Sinai and Sunken Meadow has ceased, but bluefish more so than the other two species discussed, fluctuate between periods of quantity and scarcity. As stated previously, bluefish, even in times of abundance, cannot be relied on to provide uniform response until such time as later in the Summer when they corral the hapless bunker schools in the head of most north shore harbors. Boatmen have a definite edge here again, but all is not lost for those of us on foot.

So if you are a late starter who has not put it all together so far this year, the month of June combines pleasant weather, uncrowded beaches, and the best month of the year—next to October—for pursuing these three elusive game fish from the surf.

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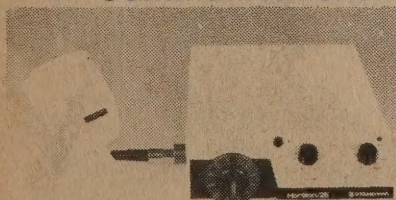
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THE AMBUSH!

by Bob Orrok and Dave May

The stars were giving way to dawn, and the birds began to sing their song of welcome. A squirrel scampered from tree to tree like a wind-up toy, in short bursts of speed, with its cheeks crammed full of pine cone seeds.

In a nearby pond, a pickerel lay just below the surface in the middle of a jungle of lily pad stems. The new day had awakened hunger in the pickerel, igniting the urge to hunt, from deep within his long sleek body. Soft finned and lean, he is built for speed. His jaw is full of sharp pointed teeth that holds prey in the strong jaws. A ferocious feeder, the pickerel will attack frogs, worms, killies, herring, or even mice or big bugs.

He is laying in ambush, waiting for anything that moves in his section of the pond. For whatever it is moves, will be his next meal. The camouflage coloration of the pickerel and his area of concealment, make him almost invisible to any unsuspecting creature that lives in or around his pond in "anywhere," New Jersey. Usually brownish-green on the back, shading to greenish-yellow on the sides and belly, he is marked with blotches of lime green, and lines or chain-like markings of the same color, only lighter.

The pickerel weighs about six pounds, but he thinks like a twenty-pound fish. He is truly a killer in hiding. He lays like a log in the water; the only movement is the slow rhythm of his pectoral fin and the pulsing of his gill plates.

Nearby vibrations in the water cause the pickerel to slowly change directions so it's facing its prey. Something is

moving on the surface, right in the middle of a group of lily pads. One big leaf in particular, shows movement. With a slow motion movement, the pickerel moves just a little closer to that one pad. Expressionless eyes focus on the spot the vibes are coming from.

He's sure it's a frog, but the killer waits to be sure, so he can plan the perfect attack. More movement on top of the pad, but still nothing visible. Now he is sure ...

He cruises up to the stem of the pad and bumps it with his closed mouth, fairly hard, all the while his eyes are focused on the pad above. Nothing happens—so the pickerel turns and charges the pad, then dives, slapping it hard with its tail. Sure enough, a frog leaps into the water and starts to swim to the safety of another pad.

The pickerel turns and zeros in on the swimming frog. With powerful strokes of its tail, it bolts forward and up at the same time. The silence of the pond is shattered as the pickerel hits the frog, causing a splash and a big swirl as it turns and dives with the frog held tightly in its jaws.

On the bottom, he takes his time turning the frog so it goes down head first. With its gills flared out, he gulps three times and the last of the frog disappears, causing a lump in the belly.

With its belly full, he lets himself rise to the top, where he lays to draw comfort from the warm surface water.

Two days and a night pass, when hunger triggers a vibe to his brain to go on the hunt again. He cruises to a fallen tree, where he can lay among the

branches and not be detected. With the patience of a cat, he waits for a meal to come within range.

The longer he waits, the more alert he becomes, causing his senses to sharpen. Smell, sight, and vibrations are what he counts on to find his meal. With tail and pectorals fanning gently behind superior nostrils, he watched and waited, testing the water.

A short way off, a big killie swims toward the tree, not knowing the danger that lays in among the submerged branches. Long before he could see the killie, the pickerel knew it was coming.

Coiled like a spring ready to be released, the pickerel waited for the right minute and the perfect angle. When the killie came into view, it was only a few feet away and heading right for the submerged tree. The pickerel would make a straight-ahead attack, using its blinding speed and surprise. There would be no chase—just the kill.

At the perfect time, the pickerel shot forward in a blur of speed, and with open jaws, hit the killie broadside. He clamped his vise-like jaws shut and turned away, with its next meal hanging from its mouth.

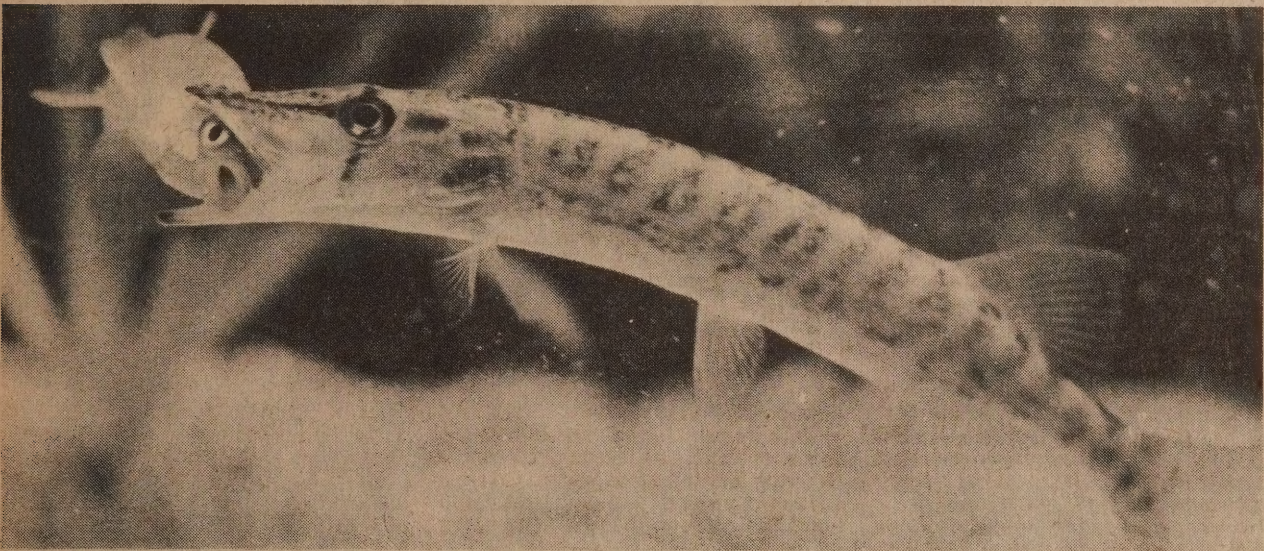
Once again, all was calm and quiet on the pond above; while below, the pickerel slept.



Unsuspecting killie swims idly towards its fate.



With lightning-like speed, the pickerel attacks the killie.



After stunning its prey, the pickerel turns the killie as it prepares to fill its belly.



And down it goes!

STRIPED BASS FISHING

PART TWO: Plugs & Plugging

by Captain Ron Onorato

Many years ago, long before the use of bunker came into being and huge schools of bass spent much of their time in local waters, the primary tool of the fisherman was the big Atom 40, or Atom Senior, as it was often called. This big wooden plug would take fish of all sizes just about any time of the day. Ten pound rats, as well as fifty pound cows, would compete with each other to get to the plug first. When the mullet run was on along the South Shore, there was no need for any other lure when casting a blue Atom towards the jetties and wooden panels of Rockaway and Long Beach.

Unfortunately, much of this has changed today. No longer do we have the big schools of bass we had in the sixties, and no longer do we have the wooden Atom 40, or many of the other great plugs of that time. Due to a decreasing population of bass of all sizes, plugging has become less and less productive as a means of taking fish. Also, the use of live bait has eroded the numbers of fishermen who heave those big pieces of wood. With this decreasing popularity towards plugging, many of the tackle manufacturers discontinued large scale production of many of the big plugs. Soon, they disappeared from the shelves of the tackle shops, and gradually disappeared from the scene, except for a few surplus models.

Despite all these drawbacks, plugging still holds a fascination for many fishermen. Perhaps it's that washtub size swirl of a brute striper as he inhales your big swimmer, or maybe just the sense of accomplishment of taking a single big fish on a carefully worked popping plug. For whatever reasons, once someone gets into plugging, it is something he appreciates more than other types of fishing.

Why does a bass take a plug? This question has been discussed and analyzed as long as fishermen have used them, and many have their own theories on the matter. Let's take a look at the bass itself and see what we come up with. Bass are savage predators and will feed on all sorts of small bait fish such as mackerel, mullet, herring, bunkers, etc. Thus, many say that a plug is a simulation of some sort of bait fish. This is true up to a point. An eight inch piece of wood or plastic, with three big treble hooks doesn't look like a bait, and it doesn't smell like one, or move like one, yet millions of fish have fallen to them since their birth.

What other reasons are there? When bass are on a heavy feed, during storms in the Fall, or during the height of their migrations, the fish will take a plug more



Mike Wengryn with school bass taken on popping plug on North Shore.

readily than at other times. Apparently during these times, the plug looks like something good to eat and the bass are less cautious about taking them. This may be true during the Spring and Fall "blitzes," but this may not be the case during the Summer, when you try for resident, not migrating, fish.

The bass is a creature of dominion, like most predators are. It will establish its domain around a rock pile, jetty, or some other favorable area, with several other bass. It will summer in this area, and feed at will, usually during the night or around dawn. Once this domain is established, the bass exercise control over it and permit no intruders to enter it. Thus, when the plugger arrives on the scene, he is presenting an unwanted intruder to the bass in the way of a plug. The bass will often try to chase this intruder away: he will follow the plug, swirl under it, chase it, or hit it with its tail. This is when the novice plugger thinks that a bass missed the plug. A bass will never miss a plug if he is intent on taking it. If the persistent plug still refuses to leave, the bass will try to kill it by eating it—this is when the fish gets hooked. What has happened here was that the bass was annoyed, antagonized, and infuriated into taking the plug. In many years of plugging, I have seen fish follow and swirl under a plug many, many times before finally taking it. It could have been several different fish, but I believe it was the same fish. Again, this is just a personal theory.

With the numerous amount of plugs on the market today, it may seem difficult to select those most successful ones. We'll take a look at some of the more recent additions to the market, as well as some older ones.

Before going out and spending great money on many different plugs, you'll have to look at the conditions under which you'll be fishing. If you're going to concentrate on small fish, it's foolish to use eight inch plugs, and the same holds true that if going for big fish, you're not going to use a midget plug. The types of area you plan to fish will also dictate the type of plug and the colors that are most effective. The plugs are broken down into several major categories: surface swimming plugs, sub-surface swimmers, popping plugs, midget plugs, and oddball plugs. Each category has its own peculiar habits that separate them from each other.

One of the greatest swimming plugs ever to reach the water was the Atom 40 or Senior Atom as it was often called. It was originally manufactured in wood, and was a little less than eight inches in length. This fantastic plug had the ability to raise fish in the middle of the day, which is rare these days. Unfortunately, the wooden Atom has disappeared from the scene: the manufacturer discontinued making the wooden ones, and then went to plastic bodies. Because the plastic was lighter than the wood, in some of the swimmers a little piece of lead was molded in the plug.

The plastic model is not as effective as the old wooden one, but does produce.

A recent addition, to the surface swimmers are the Danny plugs. This is an all-wood plug that is a little wider and broader than the Atom 40, and comes in a couple of sizes. This is one of the better surface swimmers around today, as their cost may indicate.

In addition to the Senior Atom, there is the old reliable, Junior Atom. This is a plug similar to its bigger brother, but it is about 2½ inches shorter and weighs much less. This is a fine plug for medium and small size bass.

One of another all-time, great time plugs to disappear from the shelves was the old flaptail plug. The flaptail plug was just a surface swimming plug body, but instead of having a big treble at the tail end of the plug, there was a big spinner blade attached. When this plug was retrieved on the surface of the water, it created a gosh awful commotion that woke up just about every bass in the Atlantic. This was very effective when there were bunkers in the water, because the commotion caused by the tail blade was similar in nature to that of tiny bunker flapping their tails on the surface. These plugs can be easily made by just removing the tail hook and somehow adding a spinner blade to one of the wood surface swimmer.

Creek Chub also has a large surface swimming plug that was very effective, but somehow in the course of mass production, the newer plugs just are not the same. In addition to the Danny plugs, which are not mass produced, but are individually made, is the Stan Gibbs ine. His wooden surface swimmers are very good and come in several different shapes and sizes.

As the name implies, the surface swimmers work on or near the surface. The prime time for these big swimmers is during the night or around dawn and

dusk. Blue and white, gold, yellow, and rainbow colors, are the most effective; cloudy and rainy days will work better than bright, sunny days.

The next category of plugs are the sub-surface swimmers—plugs designed to work well below the surface of the water. These plugs are similar in design to the surface swimmers, except that either they are weighted with lead to sink them a bit, or through the lip and cut of the plug itself, digs down on retrieve. These sub-surface plugs also double for use as trolling plugs, usually on wireline. These plugs are used when you want to present a lure to deep feeding fish. When the tide is fast and the water deep, these plugs are at their best. One of my all-time favorites is the medium sized Creek Chub pikie deep swimmer, painted to resemble a mackerel. Another worthy plug is the Danny deep swimmer in the medium size model. In addition to the other colors already mentioned, all black or all brown are outstanding colors.

The final major category of plugs deals with the popping plugs. These plugs are quite different in design from the swimming plugs in that they lack the lip that the swimmers have, and the head of the plug is concave. Except for home-made wooden poppers, most of the others on the market sink unless they are retrieved. Thus, they must be kept in constant motion to keep them near the surface where they will do their desired work. The popping plug derived its name from the fact that during the retrieve, it is popped across the surface of the water, splashing and gurgling as it goes along. For reasons unknown to us, this motion excites or annoys bass to the point of hitting the plug. A popping plug surely resembles no type of bait that I can think of, yet countless numbers of bass have fallen to it.

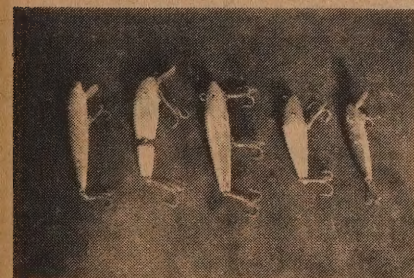
Even if a bass has no intention of

hitting a popper, he will at least take a look at it. For this reason, when I first enter an area, or fish somewhere new, the first thing used is a popper. More often than not, if there are any bass in the area, they will rise under the plug even if he doesn't hit it. From there you can then try various lures until you connect. Again, the fish will often take the popper on the first cast, or it may take six or seven casts before the fish takes the plug. I believe that most bass are annoyed by the persistent popping of the plug and when they hit it, they are not really hungry, but are just trying to kill it. There is more than just cast and systematically retrieving the plug. You can pop it sharply a few times, and then ease off before popping again. Versatility of the plucker is extremely important here.

An offshoot of the straight popper, is the pencil popper. This plug is very narrow at the head, and widens down the base of the plug. Again, this imitates no known bait fish to me, but is more effective than a regular popular popper when properly worked. During the retrieve, the head and neck of the pencil popper will almost be entirely out of the water, while the rest of the plug will be below the surface.

Worthy of an honorable mention are the mighty midget plugs which have appeared in great numbers on the market, and are quite effective. First and foremost on this list is the tiny Rebel plug. This plastic plug in the three and four inch size, is a schoolie killer of the first water. This shiny imitation of a spearing is one of the best to use, when this bait fish is in the area in good numbers. It comes in larger sizes, as well as the other sizes. Another favorite is the Mirro-Lure minnow, which also has a flashy back and resembles small bunkers. Another favorite is the Garcia

(Continued on page 48.)



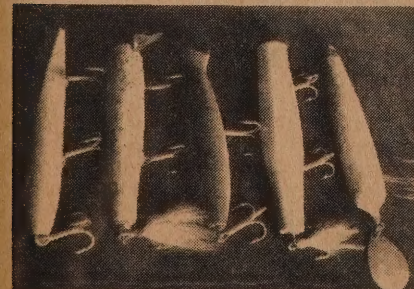
An assortment of "midget" plugs.



An assortment of "midget" plugs.



Sub-surface swimmers.



Surface swimmers. Left to Right: Stan Gibbs Darter, Atom Jr., Gibbs Swimmer, Danny Swimmer, "Flaptail" plug.



"Bunker" plug and Rebel plugs of assorted sizes.



Popping plugs. Left to Right: Pencil Popper, Atom Popper, Danny Popping Plug.

Tough, Mean & Delicious

by Captain John C. Henning

Know anyone who sneers at barnacles? Add to this the arrogance to eat them and you have one rough and tough fish. What are waiting for—let's go fishing.

Blackfishing makes a real fine sport, and remains possibly the last of the non-commercialized fishes. Sure would like the Russians, Japanese, etc., to develop a taste for this fine fish. Can't think of a finer way to build a reef. Lots of netting, rope and chain would be deposited right where it would do this bulldog the most good.

This is the last of the ocean's virgin fisheries for us to enjoy. Bounce a sinker here and there, and you'll know why the rape has not as yet claimed this tasty, sporting fish. You simply cannot help to add to her lair each and every time you fish for her. Just another on-the-spot payment of our dues.

This past Fall, I once saw mention of a market value for this fish; perhaps the rape is to begin. Rarely is it sought and sold (by the sport fisherman), even though its food value is high. Try eating it, you'll enjoy (much better than Bass or Blues).

Here we are eating it before we catch it. Well, hungry stomachs have led more than one sailor to set a course. Let ours be to the nearest rock pile. Any sort of obstruction, pilings, bridge abutments, wrecks, reefs, etc., all hold their assortment of fish.

That's right, mate, it's back to the old chart. Our master key to the front door of all the fishes' homes.

Take a broad look at your local chart. You should immediately notice the obvious bridges and jetties. These, of course, are rather large and hold a good population of fish. Now look closer. Search out those little signs (refer to accompanying abbreviation and symbols). These smaller, lesser known wrecks and rock piles hold a fish stock generally less exploited. The greater your knowledge, and more energy you put into your sport, the greater shall be your dividend.

We have the general idea: rough bottom for a rough fish. Let's add a tough bait and make the whole project one heck of a rough, tough, enjoyable time.

This scrappy fish will eat almost anything you won't. As one young thing once told me, "this is gross." Well, Salt, you don't have to go that far—usually a dozen or two will suffice.

Green crabs may not look like the greatest choice of baits, but they very well may be. Remove the top shell and legs, cut into halves or quarters, depending on size. Insert the hook

through the meaty body and out the leg hole. If there's a jumbo black down there, she'll be coming to dine.

These large crab baits will provide enough resistance to the little guys to allow time for the larger fish to arrive. Be sure to use these crabs in the ocean, on the sound, or when fishing large reefs.

Fishing the quieter waters of, say, the Great South Bay, the China-back fiddler crab comes into its own. Remove the large claw from the male crabs; the females being dainty things, only have small ones; they are, however, just as crabby. Yuk!

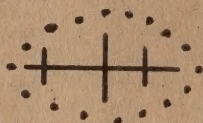
Gently pierce the body area under the large top shell around the legs and out the other side. Try your darndest not to

bust up this bait. Never attempt to use crushed or dead crabs; the results are poor. Every little tap of a bergall or small black will remove your bait.

Clams, at times, will work well, doing double duty with the resurgence of the popular sea bass which will also inhabit these wreck areas. I highly recommend using two hooks; one with crab, the other clam.

Since I tie most of my own hooks and really don't mind losing several dozen, the few fish I lose due to the snagging of the second hook, is expected and accepted. I prefer, heck, the only hook to use, is the Virginia style. Use the smallest size possible: remember, you can always catch a large fish on a small hook, but woe to you with the big one.

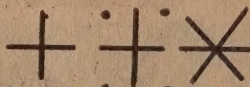
SYMBOLS & ABBREVIATIONS



SUNKEN WRECK



VISIBLE WRECK



ROCKS.



OBSTRUCTION : REEF

FISH HAVEN

FKY. - ROCKY

GFS. - GRASS

S. - SAND

hfd. - HARD

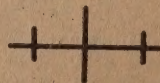
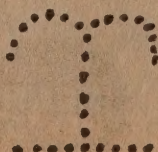
M. - MUD

Sft. - SOFT

RK. - ROCK

StK. - STICKY.

YOU TELL ME



ch

Twenty pound test line with the hook's leader tied with ten, may not sound like the best combination. The lighter the equipment you get used to using, the greater will be your sport and the results—fish.

Some guys insist on conch, periwinkle, or scungill being good bait. Heck, if I've got to pound the hell out of something until it's soft, I'd just as soon forget it. Beat on the wife, leave the bait alone. Hoo boy!

Use green crabs in areas where large fish are predominant—two pounds up. Fiddler crabs can do an excellent job in the Great South Bay's reefs and jetties.

Start your blackfishing in the Spring. Rarely do you have a problem anchoring on the reefs then. Everyone else is tied up in flounders, weaks, and fluke, leaving the blacks virtually ignored. If they are worth all that pressure in the Fall, try some relaxing Spring trips.

Speaking of Fall, I usually give them a try one of the days of the Labor Day weekend. This past year, the larger fish were present in outstanding numbers early in September. Come October, they moved offshore along with the winds; nuf said.

A few hints: remember when you anchor, you must be in the exact spot or the fish won't bother you. It may take several drops before those pesky critters start eating your bait.

Each time recovery of your anchor becomes an adventure in frustration. Tie a second line to your anchor, or rig a trip of some sort (depends on your anchor style). The object being if you cannot simply lift it out of the bottom, wreck, etc., you can pull it out backwards (the way it went in). Several skin divers make great sport of recovery of anchors. Not to wish them bad luck, but I sure hope, work, and plan so it isn't mine.

Second hint: we're back to the eating of this slimy cuss. There you have the problem—SLIME. Get rid of it, and tease those taste buds.

Nearly every fish can be filleted. The black is no different. I'm not going to try to explain the entire process; Mr. Matt Ahern has expertly done that in past issues of the LI Fisherman. Refer to Issue #5, Feb. 17, 1977, "Typical Fish Filleting."

Suffice to say: do not cook with the skin on. Fillet it off, too. The results of your trip, and knife should keep your freezer well stocked. The flesh is firm, pinkish-white and holds together well. Frying, broiling, baking, even boiling for salad, are excellent ways to enjoy this second best part of catching this rough, tough customer.

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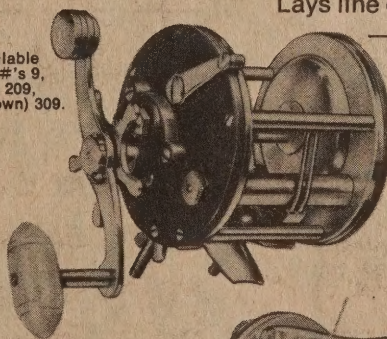
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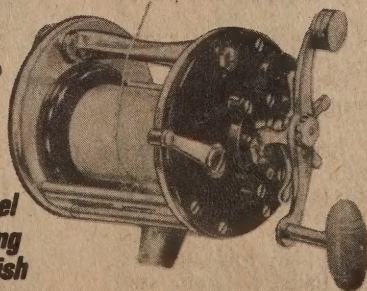
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SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

Capt. Paul Sundberg of the charterboat **Montauk** called to tell us that himself and 3 mates made an experimental shark fishing expedition during the week to the Fish Tails area, which is 70 miles south of the Point. Fifteen blue sharks ranging from 60 to 150 pounds were taken using normal chum and the new special sound equipment recently installed on the charterboat. Paul said that the shark fishing should be good from here on out. On the way back, the Capt. and mates stopped at the tilefishing grounds and took 400 pounds of big tiles in a very short while. The Capt. said that the boats fishing for pollack in the Block Island area on Sunday were swamped with action when a school of big slammer bluefish moved into the area to massacre the giant sand eels found there in abundance. Many of the boats loaded up with bluefish and pollack and a few bluefish were even taken around the Point during the weekend.

Capt. Jimmy Beehan of the **Peconic Queen III** reported that the pollack fishing is still great around the Block Island area and Cartwright, with a few cod mixed in. Bluefish are starting to show all over the area, so the boat will start its annual night bluefishing with whole herring in the near future.

Capt. Richard Rade of the **Marlin IV** reported that the cod and pollack fishing south of Block Island is still holding up well and the recent influx of bluefish is an added bonus.

Capt. John DeMaio of the charterboat **Vivienne** reported that there are striped bass in the area but the fishing just hasn't been building for some reason. Average catches for those trying for bass during the week were 3 to 4 fish per trip. Best action seems to be at night trolling



Shown here are fish taken aboard the **Viking Star** on a recent Nantucket Wreck Trip. Henry Mikacki with a 30 lb. pollack; Arty Douglas with a 59 lb. cod; Richie Nelson with a 56 lb. cod; Steve Leipeote with a 49 lb. cod and Alfred Earlson with a 57 lb. hake.

GONE FISHING MARINA



Herb Suhr of Southampton with the first fluke of the season weighing 2 pounds taken at the North Rip on squid. Photo courtesy of Gone Fishing Marina.

plugs, but the daytime diamond jigging action can start any tide now.

Capt. Gene Kelly of the brand new charterboat **Sea Doll** called to say that the new boat made it's maiden voyage on Sunday. The charter caught 9 blue sharks, releasing 3. As usual, the sharks were on the small end of the scale and only ranged up to 90 pounds, but larger sharks should be moving inshore shortly. These fish were all taken in the Butterfish Hole area.

Frida of the **Cove Marina** reported that the pollack fishing was fantastic on Saturday with great catches of giant pollack coming over the rails. Fishing was down on Sunday due to the high winds with few boats fishing. A few boats that trolled Sunday night took 6 to 8 striped bass a boat up to 30 pounds trolling big plugs. Snowshoe flounder were excellent all weekend close by at Rocky Pt. and Culloden Pt. Best action has been on mussels for chum and clams for bait. A few blackfish and sea bass are mixed in.

Capt. Ron Onorato of the charterboat **Hombre** made his first trip of the season Saturday and took 3 nice bass of 18, 22 and 26 pounds. The bass, weighed in at the **Gone Fishing Marina**, were trolled under the light on Rainbow Danny Plugs around first light.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** called to say that the flounder fishing has slowed down somewhat off Culloden Pt. and Tobbaccolot Bay, but bluefish showed up on Sunday south of Block Island. Shark fishing is excellent for so early in the year, and bass fishing is off to a good start. Capt. Johnny V. on the "Meditation" took 5 blue sharks 40 miles south of the Point, largest 120 pounds. The **Sea Jay** trolled 5 bluefish around the Lighthouse, a good sign of things to come. Dave McMann of the "Marie III" trolled 6 bass on umbrella rigs on Sunday afternoon.

Capt. Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** said that now that the codfish are fading the boat will begin sailing for



Some of the 65 cod and pollack up to 45 pounds caught by Bob Boyle and Pete Descorick aboard John DeMaio's charterboat "Vivienne."

seabass 6 A.M. daily and earlier on Sat. and Sun. All signs point to another banner year of sea bass fishing.

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Star** reported that fishing was very good over the weekend despite the weather. Pool fish on the weekend was a 51 lb. cod taken by Harry Meltzer of the Bronx and a 54 lb. hake taken by Ed Gelbste of Howard Beach. The half day fluke trips on the **Viking Starlite** have been excellent and fishing has been improving daily in the North Rips.

Bill of **Gone Fishing Marina** called in to report that Herb Schur on the "High Hope" caught his first fluke of the season last Tuesday at the North Rips using squid. David Rosenfeld and his crew on his boat "Sea Deuce" came in with over 100 pounds of cod taken southeast of Block Island.

The charterboat **Free Spirit** called to tell us that he fished the sub buoy on Thursday with a party, taking 7 cod and over 50 whiting. The cod is still strong off Block Island. On Monday they made their first offshore shark trip taking 5 blue shark up to 120 pounds just east of the first set of fingers in 190 feet of water. Frank says that he has just repowered the boat and she's now faster then ever.

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand at **Promised Land Fishing Station** reports that flounder are slowing down in this area. The blackfishing is improving at the rocks off Gardiners. Most of the fish are being taken while flounder fishing using skimmers and worms. John Walker and Walt Dugan got an early jump on the fluke and took 3 keepers with one weighing 3 pounds.

NOYAC

Helen at **Noyac Marina** informs us that Mr. Hebert and Mr. Gilligan of Queens took 7 weakfish up to 7½ pounds on Sunday, fishing between buoys 16 and 17 with Mr. Twisters and yellow Salty Dogs tipped with squid. Saturday saw fantastic weakfishing with a few fluke and porgies also taken on squid tipped salty dogs. The weaks are all over the

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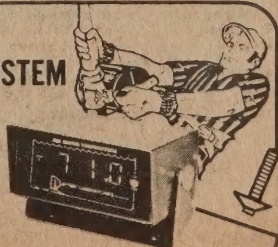
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Mike Paino, Mario Plamplano and Mike Telesco with 13 weakfish taken on pink salty dogs with a tail of white pork rind caught at buoy 16 drifting towards the marina. Photo courtesy of Noyac Marina.

bay but Helen fears they may be leaving soon.

HAMPTON BAYS

Corr's Fishing Station reports weakfish in Peconic Bay are still holding up. Four to six per boat is average, fish up to 9 pounds. Best is from National Golf Course to Jessup's Neck on long whippy rubber lures like big freshwater plastic bass worms in light colors tipped with squid. High boat this week carried Bob Maresco, Pete Valkavich, Walt Korechi and Luke Lukasiewicz with 23 weaks up to 8 pounds and 14 porgies to 2½ pounds on bucktails and salty dogs. Fluking in Shinnecock Bay is still improving, best at the CG Station and East Channel on sand eels or spearing with squid. For flounders fish east of East Channel toward Heady Creek in 8 to 10 feet of water on the mud bottom with worms and mussel chum.

Frank's Fishing Station reports that the fishing was good before the winds came that ruined the weekend. Fluke are being taken in the East Channel from 3 to 4 lbs. on squid and sand eels. Flounder can be had on worms and mussels at buoys 17 and 20.

MORICHES BAY

Tadsens Fishing Station reports they had a very good week but the fishing fell off over the weekend because of the wind. Flounder are being taken at buoy 29, Great Gun Beach and near the inlet up to 2 pounds. Fluke fishing is picking up at buoys 25 and 26 using killies and squid with some sand eels being used.

Skidmore's Fishing Station reports that flounder fishing is still holding up at buoys 35, 36, and 38 with the moving tide being best. Fluking is getting better every day inside the bay from buoys 36 to 42 on sand eels. These fish are ranging from 3 to 4 pounds. Some big bass were taken on live eels inside the inlet.

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The Long Island FISHERMAN FISHING TRIP

The Long Island Fisherman Litter Box Contest gives our readers a chance of winning a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a \$10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the better bait and tackle centers and pick up an L.I.F. Litter Box for the rear window of your car. Each week the license number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, call The Fisherman by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received, the cash prize will accumulate.

CONTEST



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LAST WEEK'S WINNER:

There was no winner this week for our contest, so next week's winner will receive \$20 instead of the usual \$10 plus a free fishing trip for two aboard a boat of his/her choice.

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Weekly winners of the L.I.F. Litter Box Contest may chose a trip for two aboard one of the following boats as their prize:

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Viking Star
Peconic Queen III
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Speedy VI
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**Set a new I.G.F.A. World Record &
you have a chance of winning a
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You only have to be a subscriber!**

Contest Rules & Regulations

1. **DATES**-- The Contest will begin at midnight on May 1st and end at midnight on October 31st, 1977. Fish must be caught during this time frame and be confirmed as a new World Record by the International Gamefish Association (I.G.F.A.) no later than February 1st, 1978.
2. **ENTRY FEE**--There is no entry fee to participate in the Contest. The only requirement is that you **MUST** have been a subscriber of The Long Island Fisherman for at least 30 DAYS before the date that a fish was caught. Immediate members of a subscriber's family are also eligible if they are living together in the same household. Example: Mother, father, brother, sister, daughter, son.
3. **ELIGIBLE SPECIES**--The Contest has ten (10) eligible species: five inshore and five offshore. They are:

Inshore-- FLUKE WEAKFISH STRIPED BASS BLUEFISH BLACKFISH	Offshore-- BLUE SHARK MAKO SHARK WHITE SHARK SWORDFISH WHITE MARLIN
--	---
4. **RULES**--The winner of the Contest will be determined by fish caught by subscribers of The Long Island Fisherman that are recognized as new World Records by the I.G.F.A. The following rules will apply:
 - a. Fish must be one of the ten eligible species.
 - b. Catch must be made sometime between midnight May 1st and midnight October 31st, 1977.
 - c. Fish must be taken in Long Island Waters.
 - d. All catches must be made under the rules and regulations set up by the I.G.F.A. These rules and regulations will be printed in the May 5th issue of The Long Island Fisherman, and will be available after that date for any angler sending in a self-addressed envelope to The Fisherman.
 - e. The catch must be **CONFIRMED** as a new World Record by the I.G.F.A. by February 1, 1978.
 - f. New records can be for any of the I.G.F.A. line classes: 6-lb., 12-lb., 20-lb., 30-lb., 50-lb., 80-lb., 130-lb., or All Tackle, for both Men and Women.
5. **WEIGH-STATIONS**--Any of the Long Island Fisherman Official Weigh-in Stations may be used for a **PRELIMINARY** weigh-in of a possible world

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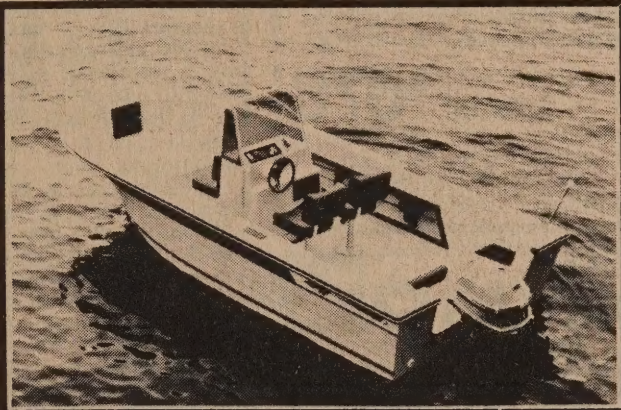
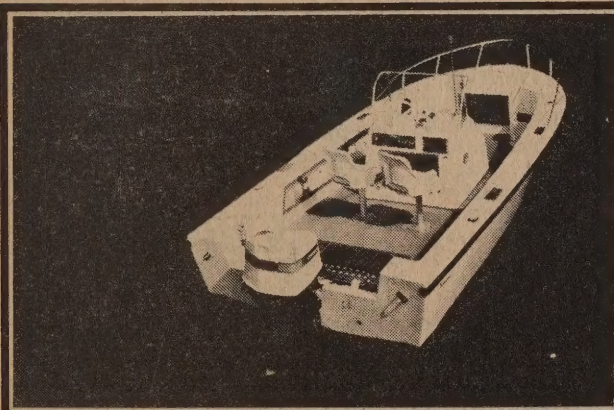


★ GRAND PRIZE ★

MAKO 20

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record fish. If it appears that the fish is a possible record, it must then be OFFICIALLY weighed in at STARFISH MARINE in East Islip, New York. After the Official Weigh-In Starfish Marine will prepare the necessary record applications that must be sent to the I.G.F.A. It is the anglers responsibility to transport his catch to and from Starfish Marine.

record is 25 lbs. and the old record was 20 lbs., the new record is 25% more weight. Score 25 points.

2. One point will also be scored for every year that prior record existed. Example: If the old record was set in May 1967 and the new record is set in 1977, score 10 points.

6. CURRENT RECORDS--For the convenience of eligible anglers, the current recognized records by the I.G.F.A. will be published in the May 5th issue of The Long Island Fisherman. Periodic updates of new records set while the contest is in progress will also be published in the pages of The Fisherman.
7. TIES--In the event that more than one subscriber sets a new World Record, the winner will be decided by the following criteria:
 - a. The angler setting the most I.G.F.A. records during the contest will be the winner.
 - b. In the event that no angler sets more than one record, but two or more anglers set a single record, the following point system will be utilized to place the winners:
 1. One point will be scored for each percentage point that the new record beat the previously held record, based on weight. Example: If the new

8. PRIZES--The Grand Prize will be the winners choice of a 1978 Grady White Center Console or a Mako 20, which will be awarded by Starfish Marine. If more than one new I.G.F.A. approved World Record is set, there will be a consolation prize for the 2nd highest point fish of \$500, 3rd highest \$250 and \$50 for each additional record.
9. JUDGES--The decision of the judges will be final.
10. Employees of Starfish Marine or The Long Island Fisherman and their immediate family members are prohibited from participating in the Contest. Anglers that have had an article published in The Fisherman within the past three years are also ineligible.



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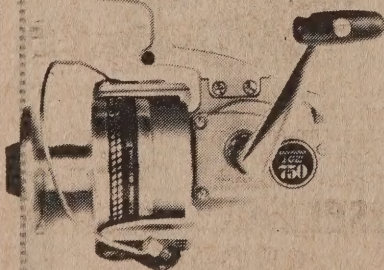
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Tom and Howard Hubbard and
Dennis Wilhause with some of the
18 fluke taken on squid and sand
eel combos with the largest weigh-
ing 3 pounds 9 ounces. Photo
courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing
Station.

that some nice flounder are being taken
in the New Cut on sand worms ranging
from 1 1/2 to 2 pounds. Fluke are doing
well at buoy 26 on killies and sand eels
from 3 to 4 pounds. Chris Stuvén took a
9 1/4 lb. fluke at buoy 26 on killies.

When Capt. Tom Cashman's charter-
boat **Rogue** went out Friday, she
returned to dock with a catch of nine
tagged blue sharks, which had gone
after mackerel. Some ran up to 100
pounds. Six blues were caught that trip,
running to 15 1/2 pounds. On Saturday, 14
sharks up to 120 pounds were tagged, in
125 feet of water southeast of Moriches
Inlet.

MASTIC BEACH

Stiriz's Fishing Station reports fluking
has been great between buoys 17 and 25
on sand eels, squid and spearing on all
tides. Weakfish have showed at buoy 12
and at the hole at 17 on Salty Dogs
tipped with squid. Some blacks at the
bridge up to 5 pounds on squid and
worms. Flounders can be had between
buoys 25-29 in pockets on worms. Blues
have started on tubes and poppers at the
hole at 17. Good showing of blowfish
west of the Smithpoint bridge on worms
and squid. A lot of blue shark were taken
this past week about 10 miles south of
Moriches Inlet.

SAYVILLE

Young's Fishing Station reports fluke
off Heckscher and off Ocean Beach in all
the deeper water spots. These are fish
17-19 inches running up to 4 pounds, all
on sand eels and on all tides. Weakfish
on the bottom all day and taking top
lures at the top of the tide. Salty dogs,
Mr. Twisters and sandworms are ac-
counting for the weakies. Blows, eels
and flounder are filling out bags. Five 8
pound weaks were taken on Saturday off
Heckscher by one of his skiffs.

WEST SAYVILLE

South Bay Fishing Station reports
weakfish taken on salty dogs tipped with
squid drifting from buoy 25-21 on any
tide. Fish are averaging 7 pounds. Fluke
were taken this week between buoys 4
and 5 off Heckscher on live killies,
spearing and squid. Killies have been
working best. The fluke are big, 4 to 5
pounds, says Marty. Blowfish have
showed in Nichols Bay and are taking
squid or clam.

EAST ISLIP

Wet-A-Line Bait and Tackle reports
weakfish being drifted at Heckscher on
outgoing water best, using salty dogs.
Bluefish at the inlet on bunker chum and
butterfish. Blue chark being taken
southeast of the inlet in 135 feet of water
and to top it off, flounders on sand eels
throughout FII.

OAK BEACH

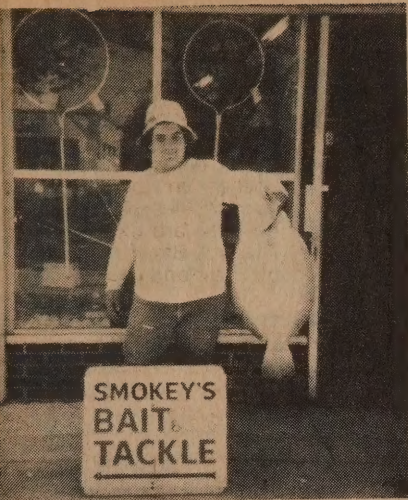
The Store reports weakfishing has
slowed. Lots of blue shark being taken
offshore while fluke are being picked on
the north side of The Store in good
quantities. Fluking remains good in the
inlet. There are rumors of bass being
taken here and there at Democratic Pt.
and Cedar Beach on chunk bunker or
mackerel.

BAY SHORE

Smokey's Bait and Tackle tells us that
Dennis of the Babylon Tuna Club took 6
blue shark on Saturday fishing in 150
feet of water. Sharkers are now getting
12 to 15 lb. bluefish mixed in. Weakfish
are decent. Try floating a sand worm at
the first of the flood for best results. A
few bluefish from 2 to 4 pounds in with
the weaks on the Heckscher flats.
Fluking is picking up a lot and they're
feeding on sand eels from the Light-
house to the inlet. A few bass at the



Jim Horne was the winner of the
\$500 weakfish contest which the
South Bay Fishing Station held this
year.



Joe Bacchi with an 8 lb. 4 oz. fluke taken at Dickinson's Channel. Photo courtesy of Smokey's Bait and Tackle.

Meadowbrook Bridge on white bucktails and wire line. A few big fluke in Dickersons Channel on salty dogs. Blowfish have arrived in spots.

CAPTREE

Capt. Neil Delaney of the charterboat *Lady Ann* said that the flounder fishing was very good Saturday morning at the Sore Thumb, while fluke fishing was slow in the afternoon. Saturday's night weakfishing trip, which requires a reservation, was very good with 70 weakfish in the 8 to 10 lb. range taken. Best action was between 10 P.M. and midnight. Sunday's fishing for all species was slow due to the high winds.

Capt. George Roman of the *Captree Queen* reported that the flounder and fluke fishing was erratic over the Memorial Day weekend due to the high winds. The flounder fishing has been slowing up, so the boat will be spending more and more time for fluke. The afternoon weakfishing trips on Fri. and Sat. were slow with 12 to 15 fish taken each trip. The fish are on the flats and scattered. Sunday night the weakfish were hitting good at buoy 17 and Ocean Beach rather than on the flats. 36 weakfish in the 2 to 5 lb. class were taken in the high winds.

Capt. Ben of the *Capt. Ben Litwin* reported that the flounder are still around in good numbers but the action has been slowly fading. Sunday's fishing was good with 10 to 20 flounder a man. Fluke fishing was poor to fair over the weekend due to the high winds. Saturday's pool was over 4 pounds and an 8 lb. doormat took the pool on Tuesday. Best action has been with killies and squid around the Robert Moses Bridge.

BABYLON

Hi-Hook Fishing Station reports that Frank Gnolfo of Forest Hills had 5 weakfish at Dickerson's buoy 4 on salty dogs on Saturday. A 6 lb. fluke was taken at buoy 4 on sand eels by Ron of

Laurelton on Monday. All of Mario's skiffs had fluke all week long, mainly on sand eels, squid combos.

Babylon Fishing Station tells of lots of weakfish in Snake Hill Channel on the surface taken with shiners and a bobber, just like snappers. George and Dee of Van's and 4 x 4 Conversions of Deer Park had 10 weakfish in the 9 lb. category over the weekend taken on the flats before Snake Hill Channel. Lots of flounder still at the Sore Thumb, with angler John Sussman bagging 28 of them. Good fluking from Snake Hill Channel to the Lighthouse. Doc Grell had 3 fluke from 8 to 10 pounds fishing the inshore reef.

LINDENHURST

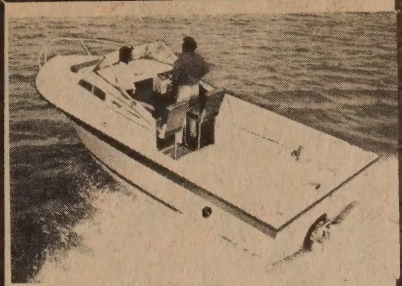
Charlie's Bait and Tackle tells us that Les Berrent, Herb Scheinfeld and Frank Carty bagged 16 fluke in Fire Island Inlet up to 4 pounds on Saturday on sand eels and live killies. Joey G. Jr. took 6 weakfish fishing with Tony The Shoemaker, fish going up to 5 pounds 6 ounces on Pussycats. This was in Fire Island Inlet. Joe G. Sr. took a 33.8 and 37 lb. bass on bunker Monday night somewhere in the Great South Bay. Ted Hoversen fishing at the 45' line saw a 6' mola-mola which is Hawian for giant sunfish. There are ling at the artificial reef outside and there are fluke on sand eels and live killies inside the inlet. Flounders and blowfish are available on the inside on worms and clam.

COPIAGUE

Jonas Bait and Tackle reports the weaks are off and on with the best bet being Ocean Beach and West Island.



6 year old Michael Derby of No. Babylon caught these two weaks all by himself on pink salty dogs. They weighed 10 pounds 1 ounce and 6 pounds 2 ounces and were taken in the eve. Photo courtesy of Augie's Bait and Tackle.



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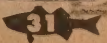
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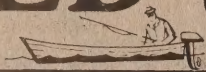
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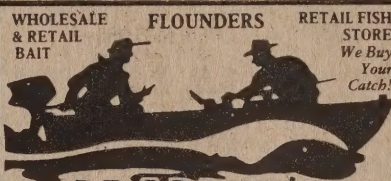
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Three small weaks were taken at the Copiague Hole. Weaks and a 5 lb. striper were taken in West Channel, all on white shrimp lures. Blackfishing is slow. The Sore Thumb is about the best bet for flounders this past week. Frank Gabriel took 7 fluke up to 6 pounds at the Copiague Hole on live killies. Fluking stays strong. Ken Roche had 15 fluke fishing the East/West Channel with spearing, fish averaging 2½ pounds.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait and Tackle reports good weakfishing at Fort Neck Point in the 35' hole. On Friday George Combs Sr. and wife took 7 weakies from 1½ to 9 pounds chumming with shrimp with sand worm on the hook at Fort Neck Pt. Frank Roach of Seaford had 20 weakies in the same spot, same method, on the last of the ebb and the first of the flood. Unqua Pt. and East/West Channel are producing for drifted sand worms. There's fair fluking between Squaw Island and West of the drawbridge on live killies and squid with blowfish mixed in. Two stripers were taken in the State Channel at Gilgo, a 28 and 34 pounder, on sand worms on a hi-lo rig while weakfishing. A few schoolies are being taken on bellies at the Wantagh Bridge at slack. Flounders on worms at the Wantagh Draw Bridge and also the 3rd bridge.

MASSAPEQUA

Bill at Massapequa Tackle and Sports reports fluking fair to good, fish up to 3½ pounds on sand eels at Jones Inlet and Fire Island Inlet, on sand eels and squid. Flounder fishing is slow but some boats are coming back with 30-40 flatties. Needless to say, worms are working best. Weakfish at the Heckscher flats and the local holes on salty dogs tipped with squid. Joe Gieto had an 8 lb. weak on a live killie while fluking at Squaw Island. Drifting sand worms for weaks is hot right now, fishing one hour each side of the slack. Bob Sauerbrey took an 11 lb. 6 oz. black at the T-wreck on a fiddler crab this past week.

SEAFORD

Salice Fishing Station reports good mixed bags of fluke and flounder being brought in by his boats with flounder favoring bloodworms in the 3rd bridge area and at Four Corners. The fluke are hitting the sand eel—squid combos from Four Corners to the 3rd bridge to the Meadowbrook. A few weaks on fluke rigs.

BELLMORE

Merrick Marine Supplies reports lots of shark at the 130' line. Al Seimeca had 5 blue sharks from 50 to 100 pounds and another angler had 3 blue shark. Fluking good in Jones Inlet and Swift Creek on sand eels and squid.



Jack Slekes Jr., Ellie Slekes and Ray Cotty with 45 legal fluke taken at Swift Creek on squid and sand eels. Photo courtesy of Nick's Marina.

MERRICK

The infamous G. Korn while rummaging through his incredibly messy tackle box over the weekend put a 4/0 fluke hook into his thumb. To Korn's credit, we must report that he only let out 1 yelp followed by a 6 second moan. This man's got guts.

Jimmy at Nick's Fishing Station says that Merrick Point produced good fluking on Monday morning for a few boats drifting on an outgoing tide. On Saturday 43 fluke were taken in Swift Creek by one of his skiffs on killies. Sunday was bad fishing due to the winds. Len Baum on his "Elizabeth B" took a 5, 13 and 25 lb. striped bass fishing Roamer Shoals with Danny Plugs on Friday morning. Dr. Manfrin had 30, 10, and 33 weakfish for 3 days of fishing using sand worms off Heckscher. A few blowfish and kingfish have also been taken.

BALDWIN

Arthur St. Fishing Station reports lots of fluke being taken by their skiffs in Swift Creek and Reynolds Channel on squid, sand eels or killies.



N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie of the **Starstream II** reports that he had a good turnout of fishermen both Saturday and Sunday. On Monday the crowds calmed down a bit. Overall, the fishing was satisfactory, fishing about one hour from the inlet. The conservative catches taken were mixed bags of big ling and some nice seabass.

The **Capt. Al** was fishing local wrecks around Jones Inlet over the Memorial Day weekend, and had plenty of very happy fishermen go home with an average of 20-50 lbs. of seabass, ling, whiting and a few blackfish, mostly in the two-three pound range. The captain is fishing about 45 minutes to one hour away from the dock.

The **Aloma II** reports that fluke fishing has been excellent over the three day weekend. Saturday was the slowest day, with the 40 people aboard averaging five-eight fish per person. On Sunday and Monday, the average was six-thirteen fish per person. The fishing was done in the Jones Inlet area. The fish taken over the weekend was a five pound fluke and most fish ranged from two to three pounds.

The **Aloma** reports the seabass are starting to be caught and 12 per person have been taken. The fishing is being done around the deep holes at Debbs Inlet, where one bag of ling per person are being taken.

Hook, Line and Sinker Bait and Tackle reports that Captain Frazio and crew on

his boat "Lady Jane II" on Saturday had 8 bluefish from 9 to 11 pounds fishing 130 feet of water 150 degrees southeast of the inlet, on butterfish. They also had a big blue shark on. Fluke are being taken in Swift Creek on sand eels, squid and shiners. Flounders are still good and a few blackfish are being taken at the bridges as are weakfish in the evening. Sign up now for the bergall and sea robin tournament or you will be too late.

Ronnie Feuring of **Sea Isle Sports** tells us that a 27 1/2 lb. strip was taken by Carmine Puma on his boat "Salty Sea IV" fishing a white bunker spoon down deep with the aid of a Penn Deep Troller downrigger fishing in 30' of water off Lido.

Captain Joe Long of the charterboat **Nite Owl** made the run out to Hudson Canyon for tilefish on Saturday. Joe and 7 aboard the boat took roughly 500 pounds of tile before calling it a day.

Charterboat **Miss Freeport** called today to report that while Saturday's fluking was fair, Sunday's was very good mainly in Jones Inlet. Joe Fischel had 23 keeper fluke. Over 200 keepers came over the rail on Sunday. Capt. Tony asks us to tell you that he will be also sailing 4:30 P.M. fluke trips on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons through the summer, starting June 8th.

Anthony's Fishing Station end-of-the-weekend call included a report of over a dozen fluke, in the 3 lb. range found in Swift Creek and Freeport Creek Canal. Sand eels and squid were used. The flounder are down in size, but still abundant. Down around the 1st Parkway bridge, 3 to 4 weeks were taken, along with a few blacks.

POINT LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station reports that a 75 lb. blue shark was taken this weekend by Howie Frankel of Bellmore on his boat "Chubs". A still larger blue shark was broken off. This was 12 miles south of the inlet. Fishing was excellent early in

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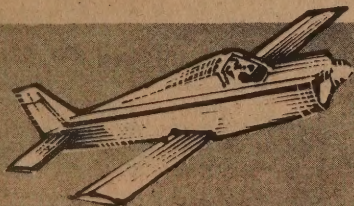
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the week but only fair on the weekend, with fluke continuing to fall to sand eels, spearing and killies. Flounder action is still good and the fish are fat with Swift Creek and the Coast Guard Station producing well. Some blackfish at the Meadowbrook Bridge, the T-wreck and the Rota Wreck. A few sea bass are also being taken in the bay along with flounders. In addition, one skiff returned with 2 small bluefish which hit fluke rigs in the inlet.

ISLAND PARK

Beckman's Tackle reports that fluke to 5 pounds were being taken in the beginning of the weekend off the Coast Guard Station and East Rockaway Inlet. Kingfish from 1½ to 2 pounds were being taken in Fire Island Inlet by the Lighthouse on shrimp and sand worms while weakfishing. Black fishing is excellent under the bridges. Flounder are beginning to slow. By the way, the best combo for fluke is squid and sand eels.

LONG BEACH

Long Beach Sports reports that Ralph Pergola and Andy Carcana of Richmond Hills took 23 fluke to 2 pounds on killies and sand eels fishing Duck Point. Bernie Haag of Long Beach fished for 1½ hours and took 35 fluke with some running over 2 pounds in Debbs Inlet.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Captain Ronnie Lepper of the Kim reports great fluking between the Atlantic Beach Bridge and Debs Inlet. Bass up to 40 pounds are being taken off the Rockaways. Tom Crilly went over to Jersey and trolled 2 fish in the 20s at Sandy Hook on Lupo Danny Plugs. Bass to 18 pounds are being picked up on umbrellas, and it looks like things will be starting soon. Bass are also being picked up in the Rockaways and off Long Beach on bait with a few big fish being taken from the beaches on poppers and bucktails, fish in the 20 to 40 lb. range. There are fish off Jersey but it has been slow to fair. The fish are a little bigger than they were in '76, ranging 20 to 30 pounds. Best results, says Ronnie, have been at daybreak with Danny plugs and later in the day on the new Lupo Baby bunker spoons. Sunday was washed out due to the rotten weather.

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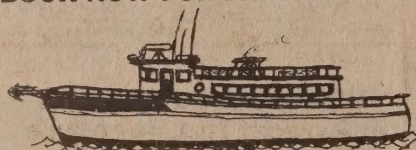
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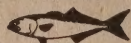
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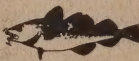
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producing bass at night on worms. Breezy Pt. is producing blackfish and fluke are beginning to show there.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The New Eagle had pretty good whiting and king fishing this weekend, with catches from a five gallon pail to a burlap sack per person coming in. The fish are averaging two pounds and are being caught both day and night in Debbs Inlet. The captain would like to tell the people that there are still openings for his June 5th tile trip, and you should call for reservations before he

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is booked solid.

The **Dorothy B** had fantastic ling fishing, with fish averaging 2½ pounds and catches averaging 40 fish per person, fishing East Rockaway Inlet. The captain said it is now getting warmer and it is open season on fluke.

The **Elsie K III** will start fluking on May 31st, but he fished Debbs Inlet over the weekend for ling, seabass and whiting, and took around 20 fish per man, averaging two pounds.

Stella Maris Bait and Tackle reports fair blackfishing at the Stone Jetties but the big news is lots of bass being taken by bunker dunkers off Staten Island and Romer Shoals. Those chumming and those trolling spoons and umbrellas are also getting their share of bass. These are fish from 20 to 30 pounds. Keeper fluke being taken off Reis Park.

Last week the **Big Mohawk II** put the Franklin K. Lain charter into lots of big whiting and ling. The pool was taken by Ralph Mahur with a 3 lb. 9 oz. whiting. Capt. Tony's 11 year old son had 15 whiting from 2 to 3 pounds. On Saturday Jack Cunningham and group bagged up on whiting and ling. On Sunday, the Fulton Lounge Fishing Club also had sacks and sacks of fish. Art Peterson took the pool with a 5 lb. 6½ oz. ling near the Warrior buoy. This past week, Gary Corders and his group had a good day and took whiting, ling and sea bass. On Sunday, the Farmers Brau-House had a rough day with the wind but did have catches of whiting, ling and sea bass. The fishing was done at the artificial reef and around wrecks and

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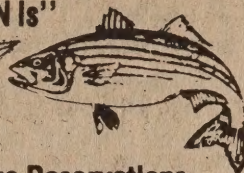
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PRIVATE BEACH • HEATED POOL

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PECONIC WEAKS & PORGIES

CAPT. CLARK I & II

DAILY 8A.M.

2 Boats Every Day

NOTICE—NEW LOCATION! Now on opposite side of canal at Berglin's Marina—Newtown Rd.—turn left off Montauk Hwy. before bridge, then ½ mile to fishing boats. Capt. Clark Bellows Sr. & Jr. • 516-728-1709 or 728-2506

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80 Ft. Long • 23 Ft. Wide
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—CUSHIONED LOUNGE
THREE V-8 DIESELS for
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MANY MORE FEATURES DESIGNED FOR
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**FINEST DEEP SEA 1-12
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"SHARK FISHING OUR SPECIALTY"

—20 YEARS MONTAUK EXPERIENCE—

**Book Now for COD,
POLLACK
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CAPT. C. NAPPI HAS WON 3 OF THE LAST 4
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THE WORLD'S FLUKE RECORD OF 22 1/2 LBS.

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Big, Roomy, The Ideal Charterboat!

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44 Ft. Twin Diesels • All Electronics

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1956 to 1976, OUR 40th ANNIVERSARY YEAR

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MONTAUK'S LARGEST.
FINEST, FASTEST &
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WRECK TRIP!!!

Leaves Sunday,

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June 6th

at 9 P.M.

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50' CHARTER BOAT **TRITON II** **COD-POLLACK**

Charters Up To 40 Pass.

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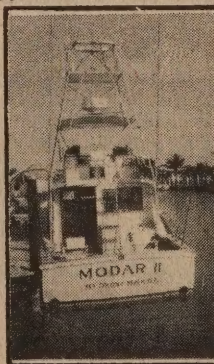
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45 FT. TWIN DIESEL

Specialized

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WE GLADLY TEACH

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34 FT. TWIN ENGINE SPORTFISHERMAN

★ SHARKS ★

ALL TYPES SPORTFISHING

Half or Full Day • 6 Passengers

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UP TO

6

PASS.

—Specializing In Bass & Bluefish—

DIAMOND JIGGING & ALL

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Capt. BRAD GLAS?
See the Hel-Cat Ad, P. 40

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21
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BOATS
7:30 & 9 AM
3:30 & 4:30 PM

The Family Port on Great South Bay

FLUKE & WEAKFISH

• ALL BIG, COMFORTABLE BOATS •

★ Fish in Calm, Sheltered Waters! ★

16
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BOATS
DAY AFTERNOON
& NITE CHARTERS



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1ST IN CLEANLINESS

FINEST IN SERVICE AVAIL.



DIRECTIONS: Take Southern State Pkwy.
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PLENTY OF PARKING SPACE

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WEAKFISH 7 AM DAILY • Afternoons 4:30 PM

W
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4:30
PM

TACKLE
AVAIL.



GROUP
RATES

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7
AM



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CAPTREE'S FINEST & NEWEST

JIB VI 7 A.M. JIB V 8 A.M. FLOUNDERS

★ AFTERNOON WEAKFISH TRIPS ★

JIB VI — 3:30 PM DAILY
JIB V — Fri., Sat., Sun. 4:30 PM

Fish in Calm, Protected Waters
Best in Family Fishing — Helpful Mates
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Now Chartering for the 1977 Season

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SHARKS • BLUES — Large & Small Charters
50 FT. Twin Diesel — Full Electronics
All Types Ocean & Bay Fishing
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FAST • CLEAN • COMFORTABLE • TWIN DIESEL
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DELUXE 65 FOOTER • 8 AM Every Day

FLUKE Bay Fishing — Sheltered Waters

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A Boat you & your family can enjoy!
Free Tackle • Fantastic Mates
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HEATED CABINS • FINEST MATES!

CAPT. JOSEPH

JOSEPH IV MACKEREL 7 AM
JOSEPH II. . . . FLOUNDER 7 AM
JOSEPH I FLOUNDER 8 AM

★ AFTERNOON ★

WEAKFISH

JOSEPH II 3:30 PM DAILY
JOSEPH I . . . Fri., Sat., Sun. 4:30 PM

Senior Citizens Discounts Weekdays
LEFT SIDE OF DOCK • 516-567-2188

FLOUNDER WHITTAKER

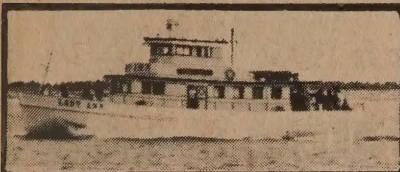
8 A.M. DAILY-CAPTREE BOAT BASIN
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Clean Boat — Left Side of Dock
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Every Saturday Night • 7 PM to Midnight • \$12 Fare

Reservations Only • Limited to 1 Side Fishing • LADY ANN 516-698-5918

rocks. On Monday, the boat sailed open and had a nice crowd which took ling until 11 and then had some nice seabass fishing. Dorothy Feist of Neward took the pool with a whiting of 3½ pounds which just beat out a fluke of 3¼ pounds. The boat will be sailing for fluke by next weekend.

Angler Mel Wolf spotted fish on his Gemtronics recorder off Norton's Pt. and was able to cash in on a fish box worth of bass using Mai Tai lures. That a boy, Mel.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop would like to tell us of some nice bass catches such as Mark Weber with a 14 lb. 12 oz. bass; Frank Noto with a 21½ pounder; Ricky Costellano with a bass of 11 pounds and Mike Piccolo with a 12 pounder. These fish are being taken at South Beach, Fort Wadsworth and off Cliff Street with the outgoing tide being best. Bluefishing is picking up at Annadale. Hank Prall took a 9½ lb blue and Bill Montaobano took a 10½ lb. blue both on bunker at Annadale. The fishing has been hot and heavy in this area and this is the best time to go because of all the different species available. There is still a scattering of fish in the Great Kills Harbor area. Blue claws are starting to show at piers 8, 17 and 18. Bass can be taken at the Verranzano Bridge and the Romer Shoal Light using Gorilla rigs, live-lining bunker and Montauk bunker spoons. These fish are ranging anywhere from 10 to 25 pounds. Princess Bay area is producing blues from 10 to 15 pounds on gorilla rigs, spoons, tubes and live-lining bunker.



Wolfie Kotzen caught this 10 lb. blackfish off the Atlantic Beach Bridge on fiddler crabs. Subscriber Club Photo.

CAPTREE QUEEN 2 TRIPS DAILY 7 AM 3:30 PM

7 AM FLUKE 3:30 PM Weaks

ALL P.M. WEAKFISH TRIPS
ARE LIMITED TO 28 PASS.

No Crowds—Regular \$10 Fare

FREE TACKLE FOR FLUKE!

CLEAN, COMFORTABLE 65' TWIN DIESEL

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Helpful Crew—Instructions for Beginners!

★ SAILS FROM RIGHT SIDE OF DOCK ★

Capt. George Roman (516) 669-1081
Capt. Gordon Roman (516) 623-0983

YANKEE

65 FOOT CHARTER BOAT
FISH IN COMFORT

Plenty of Room—

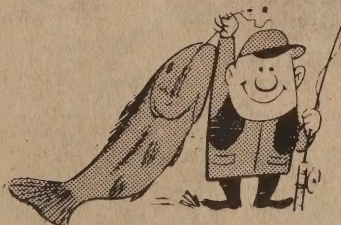
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DAYS • AFTERNOONS • NITES
SPECIAL LOW WEEKDAY RATES

★ **WEAKFISH SPECIAL** ★

4 PM — 9 PM By Single or Group Res. Only
\$10 FARE • 20 MAN LIMIT

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SNACK
BAR

**FLUKE & FLOUNDER
8 AM DAILY**

WEAKFISH 4:30 PM

★ CUSTOM ROD BUILDING ★
Rod & Reel Repairs

Right Side of Dock by Bait Station
SENIOR CITIZEN RATES WEEKDAYS!
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65 FT. TWIN DIESEL CHARTERBOAT
Full Electronics • Large & Small Groups
Clean, Fast Boat—2 Courteous Mates

Special Alt.
Trips for Fluke
& Weakfish—



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☆ BAY CHARTERS ☆

MARGARET M

45 FT. TWIN DIESEL—38 PASS. CAP.

Full, Half-Day & Evening Charters

Full Electronics • Tackle Avail.

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31 FT. FIBERGLASS SPORTFISHERMAN

SAILING
DAILY
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ELJON

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CHARTERS
AVAIL.

—Accepting Charters for 1977 Season—

Shark, Tuna, Blues & Bay Charters

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FISH FIRST CLASS ON THE ALL NEW 85 FT.

NEW

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SEABASS • GIANT LING • 6:30 AM DAILY

- ALL ALUMINUM • LATEST ELECTRONICS • LARGE HEATED CABIN • LOUNGE
- CRUISES AT 20 KNOTS • GREATER RANGE • MORE FISHING TIME!!!

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7 AM SAT. & SUN.

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SEABASS
LING • BLACKS



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Women & Beginners Welcome!

Tackle & Bait Incl. — Day & Nite Trips

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40 FT. CHARTER BOAT

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CHARTER
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NITE OWL

WRECK
FISHING

Fully Equipped 38' Twin Diesel Sportfisherman
Capt. Joe Long Freeport 623-6656 after 6

6 Pass. All Types of Sportfishing

SUNDOWN

31' 500 H.P. Fiberglass Sportfisherman

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BLUE FIN FLEET

★ AFTERNOON FLUKE CHARTERS ★

—NOW BOOKING BLUEFISH CHARTERS FOR 1977—

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AFTER 5 P.M.

AFTER 5 P.M.

LADYFISH

36 FT. TWIN ENGINE SPORTFISHERMAN

SHARK • TUNA • BLUES • BOTTOM

ALL ELECTRONICS • REASONABLE RATES

All Bay & Ocean Fishing — Beginners Welcome!

CAPT. NICK • (516) 842-4993 • (516) FR-8-9598

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FLOUNDERS—7:30 AM

50' OPEN BOAT • TACKLE AVAILABLE

POOP DECK DOCK, FREEPORT

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Macks • Weaks • Fluke • Blues

DIESEL POWERED CHARTER BOAT ALL ELECTRONICS

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ICE
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33' Egg Harbor Sportfisherman

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ALL TYPES
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Book Now
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'77 Dates

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Clean/Comfortable • 42 Ft.



HI-HOOK

Large & Small
Charters to 49 Pass.

BLUES • TUNA • SHARK

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"KIM"

Fast 29' Custom Fishing Machine
STRIPERS & BLUES & SHARKS & TUNA

All Custom Tackle Furnished — 6 lb. to 130 lb.
Chair • Tower • All Electronics

1-4 Passenger Personalized Charters
Capt. Ronnie Lepper (516) 239-9112, 9232 after 7

NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

GREENPORT

First the baby report, then the fishing report. Capt. Richie Jensen proudly announces that on Wednesday, his wife gave birth to an 8 lb. 12 oz. baby boy. Congratulations are in order. Now for the fishing report....Thursday saw excellent weakfishing with 60 fish being boated for 20 anglers. Friday night was excellent weakfishing also, though Saturday things were very slow due to the gale winds that blew from the northeast. Sunday and Monday night, the weakies hit hard again, up to 8 fish per man. Bait on hi-lo rigs is the ticket. During the week 6 fares are necessary for the boat to sail, so if you come out, bring friends. The best weakfishing is at night.

A.P. White Bait Shop said the nightfishing for weaks is pretty good and the daytime action is a little slower. Flounder are at Tobbaccolot Bay and the east side of Gardiners Bay. Striped bass are in Plum Gut. Porgies are going in the Peconics and the spring run of blues are starting to show little signs of life.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt reports the weakfish and porgy action very good between buoys 17 and 18. Alex Poliwoda of Southold fished out by the Brickyard for 1½ hours for 7 weakfish up to 7 pounds and 3 fluke to

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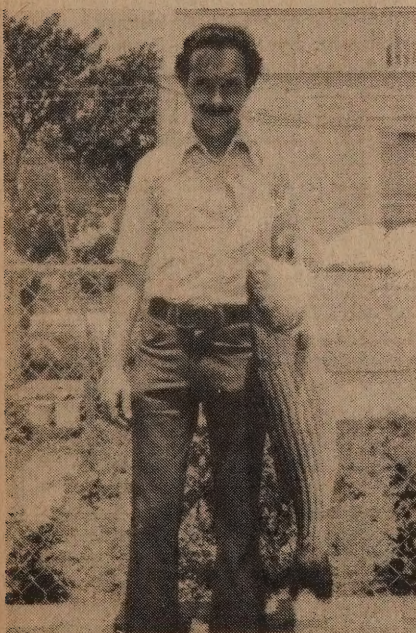
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Dominick Guadagno of Brooklyn with one of two bass taken from the Marine Parkway Bridge on sand worms on the incoming tide. Subscriber Club Photo.



Sonia Ramos, Guillermo Rivera, Pete Soto and Felix Maldonado with 37 weaks up to 9 pounds and 1 fluke taken at South Ferry. Photo courtesy of Port of Egypt.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

EVENING
FISHING

6 P.M.
Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat.

NEW EAGLE

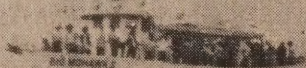


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STRIPED BASS FISHING

(Continued from page 21.)

Eel-et lure, which is a tiny imitation of an eel and comes in natural grey color.

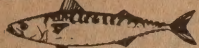
The last category we come to are the oddball plugs, which for lack of a better definition are called such. When someone first showed me a reverse Atom, I thought it was a joke. As I found out later, under certain conditions, this is a deadly plug. It is basically the same body as the Senior Atom and comes only in translucent amber color. The exception is that the plug is rigged entirely backwards and it has no lip. It also has two small holes drilled in the rear of the plug that allows a tiny bit of water to fill up in the chamber and give it extra weight. Its producers say the plug resembles a squid in the water. This plug was especially effective at Montauk Point in the years when squid were heavy in the area. More recently, a number of manufacturers have designed a bunker plug, built expressly for the purpose of imitating a tiny bunker. Some of these plugs are quite effective when the fish are feeding on the tiny "silver dollars." Under this category, we could list all those homemade plugs, and all those we can't classify otherwise. There are a great many around, and many veteran pluggers will not use plugs unless they are homemade, or of their own specific design.

We have briefly looked at some of the type of plugs that have been used successfully to take fish. It should be noted, however, that plug fishing today is just a trace of its former greatness. Except for a few days in late June, and late October, much of the North Shore was quiet. Montauk had some good fishing in early October, but was dismal otherwise. In many cases, some areas that should have held fish did not produce a single rise for several hours work. Those fish that were taken were medium size fish, and very few big fish were taken on plus anywhere on the Island this year past. The prospect for this upcoming year seems even more dismal.



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4½ pounds. Last Friday Austin Alston and Charlie Davis teamed up for the high porgy catch of 103 fish to 3½ pounds, taken south of buoy 18. Rick Weiman and Jim Fuller got 41 weeks up to 9 pounds 3 ounces taken at the Middle Grounds between buoys 17 and 18. Those still wanting flounders are making the run over to Orient State Park in Long Beach.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports that weakfishing is pretty good in the South Race using salty dogs and Bingles.

There are a lot of porgies being caught, like Mr. Henderson who had 107 porgies at buoy 23 using worms and clams. These fish ran up to 4 pounds. Blackfishing is also picking up at buoy 25 and Nassau Pt. with the biggest fish being a 9½ pounder.

AQUEBOGUE

Warren's Tackle Center said the weakfishing is definitely spotty. Don't think you can come out and be assured of a killing. If you know your spots and put your time in, you can come up with some fish. Porgies are very large and again, some boats are getting them; some aren't. Bass up to 30 pounds were taken by shorefishermen last week dunking worms at night. Blackfish are in solid in all the usual spots. Flounder are still around outside. One or two small blues were reported in the bay but there's been no word beyond that.

ROCKY POINT

Rocky Point Fishing Stop reports good blackfishing along the shore in the Wading River area. Fish up to 8 pounds have been taken on sandworms, fiddlers and clams. Schoolie bass are being taken in the Wading River area with some weaks mixed in using Whiptails or eelworms. Flounder are being taken at buoy 11 on worms. Whiting are being taken in deeper water past buoy 11 and the porgy fishing is still slow.

SELDEN

Anglers Den reports that a lot of blackfish in the 4 to 8 lb. range are being taken on fiddlers, sandworms and clams. Milton Dill took a 35 lb. 6 oz. bass on a 7 inch Rebel in Wading River. Schoolies in the 8 to 10 lb. range are being taken along with weakfish to 9 pounds in the surf off Pt. Jeff and Wading River. Blues are being taken in The Sound Beach area in the 5-6 lb. range and the hot lure right now is the Hopkins Shorty with a single hook. Cathy Mangan took a 4 lb. 6 oz. sea bass at buoy 9 aboard a party boat. Porgies from ¾ to 3½ pounds along with whiting are being taken at buoy 11. Flounder and fluke are being taken between buoy 11 and Wading River.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Ralph's Fishing Station reports blackfish from 3 to 6 lbs are being taken straight out of the harbor into the inlet on sandworms and skimmers. Porgies from ¾ to 1 pound with some bigger ones being taken are in the same area. Flounder and fluke are being caught in the harbor with the fluke fishing getting better.

PORT JEFFERSON

Caraftis Fishing Station reports that whiting can be caught jigging deep at the 90' drop-off at buoy 11. A mackerel jig can be used with a heavy diamond jig. Porgies are in thick in the area and can be taken on worms and clams. The fish are ranging from 1 to 2 pounds. Blacks

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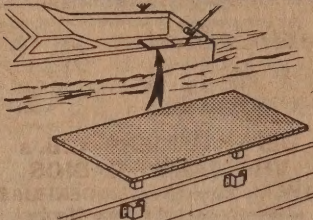
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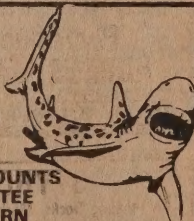
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are being taken right off the Pt. Jeff Jetty and from Miller Place to Rocky Pt. on worms, clams and fiddlers. Quite a few bass are being taken on the east shore of the harbor with fish running in the low teens being taken on worms and any artificial that looks like a sand eel.

NORTHPORT

Tom at Bowman's Sporting Goods said the weakfish are in pretty good now. You are liable to find them roaming about any place but the biggest concentrations of them are in the deep hole in Centerport Harbor and around Duck Island. Over the weekend, Rose and Wayne Ruby got weaks of 8 pounds 5 ounces and 9 pounds on plastic shrimp tipped with squid. Bass fishing is picking up. Worm trollers are scoring around the CG station. Surfcasters are taking some fish on metal lures from the east end of Mackimah Beach. This is known as the Brickyard. Fluke are off Ashroken Beach. All the fish are keepers. Black-fishing is good in almost any rocky spot. Fiddlers are the most popular bait. Porgies are being caught but nobody is really out trying specifically for them. Flounders are still around on the outside. Mackerel are about gone. Bunker showed up last week. There have been scattered reports of bluefish but nobody has weighed in any fish.

According to Fred DeJong of Chain Locker fishing was not bad for bottom fishermen, but those who sought stripers and weaks had to fish the night. Late afternoon and eve on Saturday showed these fish to be between Marshall's Field and Targer Rock going after drifted worms in a moving current. Weakfishermen did well off Duck Island Harbor and Northport Bay using pink salty dogs with squid tails and drifting worms. Some of these fish went 11 pounds. A few weaks are still being taken at the hole off the west side of Centerport. Much blackfish activity is being found off the east side of Eaton's Neck among the rocks on fiddlers. Porgies were found to be off the point in Sand City and at the head of Northport Bay. Flounders are mixed in with these porgies. Fluke can be found at Diamond Pt. and southwest and east of buoy 13 1/2 mile off Eaton's Neck Lighthouse. The fluke are being caught on squid and sand eels combos. Mackerel are scattered, however two schools are located east and west of Lilco's loading platform. Stripers are being picked up clam chumming in the rip off the east bar of Eaton's Neck. Stripers are being picked up clam. These fish are schoolies with an occasional teen fish.

HUNTINGTON

Ronnie's Bait and Tackle reports good bass fishing this week at Marshall Field and Whitewood Pt, with lots of teen fish up to 24 pounds on trolled worms. Weaks and bass mixed in from the beach at Cumset at dusk, on worms. Some good fluking this week with Chuck Arena of Huntington bagging a 6 pounder at

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Target Rock on drifted squid and sand eels. Large porgies moved in with blackfish at Sands City at buoy 4 in the Sound and at Eaton's Neck. Flounders are still around. Call Ronnie for their exact location.

GLEN COVE

Glen Cove Sports Shop reports that on Tuesday Johnny Martin took a 14 lb. 9 oz. bass off Pryble Beach using a snapper pole with a Sidewinder. The flounder fishing is now tapering off. There is good blackfishing from Matinecock Pt. to Davisons and in front of the Monastery. Jerry DeMaio took a 11 lb. 5 oz. blackfish off Pryble Beach on fiddlers. Ronnie Oldenberg took a 13 lb. 10 oz. weakfish off the Pt. on a Rebel. The fluke are starting to move and your best bet is to fish the local rips off Matinecock Pt. and Dosoris Creek using squid and sand eels. The mackerel are just about gone and this should be the perfect time to use mackerel chunks and whole mackerel to catch other species in the area.

KINGS PARK

Mae's Way Fishing Station reported that weakfishing broke wide open over the weekend. Sal Sakellarides and Mae Magliulo took 37 weaks, some to 8 pounds using 1/2 oz. Tri-Fin. Sunday the

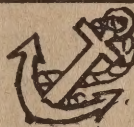
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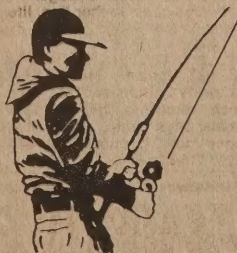


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winds were active out of the northeast, and not very many people ventured out into the waters. But on Monday, everybody was back in action once again as Joe "Pepe" Argiro and Jude Drouth from the NY Islanders brought in 4 hefty weakfish up to 7 1/2 pounds. One handed spinning gear with 6 lb. test line was used. This group fished at the mouth of the Nissequogue River off Long Island Sound. Along with the weaks, some porgies, sea bass and blackfish were brought aboard. Flounder catches, says Bob, are fast tapering off.

CITY ISLAND

Jack at Jack's Bait and Tackle said the blackfishing was pretty good all last week around Execution Light and Harts Island. Still some flounders around if you want them. As of last Sunday, mackerel were off Harts Island. Bass fishing has been pretty good in Turtle Cove. Sid Wolfman of City Island caught 55 bass last week on Rebel plugs. 40 of these were keepers up to 8 pounds. A few fluke are around Sand's Point. Jack mentioned years ago fluke were scarce in the Sound but last year everyone was getting them.

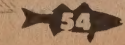
The City Island boats, the Ebb Tide and the Apache are bottom fishing. Last Saturday they had 34 porgies around 14 pounds. They were getting them jigging for mackerel but by the time you read this all the boats will be bottom fishing.

GROTON CONN.

Capt. brad Glas of the Hel-Cat said the fluke fishing is off to a very good start. Last Saturday, there was a very close race for the pool between two, eight pound doormats. Joe Giannattasi of Torrington had an eight pound, ten ounce for first place, while Anthony Zukauskas of East Hartford, had an eight pound, six ounce fish for second place. Hi-hook was 18 fish and the average fare had seven fish. Most of the fluke taken were around three pounds, which was a good sign for this early. None of the fish had to be thrown back. Remember, New York has a fourteen inch size limit on the fluke.



Christopher Loffredo took these blackfish of 5 1/2 and 7 1/2 pounds off Barkers Pt. aboard his Dad's boat, "Lollipop III" out of Manhasset Bay. Subscriber Club Photo.



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	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
THUR.	8:46	9:10	9:35	9:58	9:31	9:50	10:24	10:39	—	12:28	—	12:23	8:52	9:15	6/2
FRI.	9:39	10:02	10:27	10:51	10:28	10:46	11:16	11:32	12:41	1:23	12:40	1:15	9:45	10:07	6/3
SAT.	10:32	10:55	11:23	11:46	11:27	11:44	—	12:12	1:36	2:22	1:32	2:08	10:41	11:02	6/4
SUN.	11:25	11:49	—	12:21	—	12:25	12:28	1:11	2:35	3:24	2:26	3:01	11:37	11:56	6/5
MON.	—	12:21	12:41	1:21	12:41	1:21	1:26	2:10	3:36	4:29	3:22	3:57	—	12:33	6/6
TUE.	12:44	1:19	1:40	2:23	1:37	2:16	2:25	3:12	4:47	5:33	4:18	4:54	12:52	1:29	6/7
WED.	1:40	2:17	2:39	3:24	2:31	3:11	3:31	4:14	5:57	6:37	5:18	5:51	1:47	2:24	6/8
THUR.	2:39	3:12	3:42	4:24	3:24	4:03	4:36	5:13	7:08	7:35	6:17	6:48	2:39	3:19	6/9

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....-0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." -0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 1/2 hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	- 0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	- 0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	- 0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	- 0 12
Seaside Park	- 0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	- 0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	- 0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	- 0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNSEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	- 0 02
Rehoboth Beach	- 0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	- 0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	- 0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	- 0 38
Democrat Point	- 0 38
Coast Guard Station	- 0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	- 0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	- 0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	- 0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	- 0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	- 0 08
Herod Point	- 0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	- 0 20
Truman Beach	- 0 42
Falkner Island	- 0 13
Sachem Head	- 0 10
Brantford Harbor	- 0 07
New Haven Harbor	- 0 08
Millford Harbor	- 0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	- 0 03
Saugatuck River	- 0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	- 0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	- 0 14
Montauk Inlet	- 0 25
Montauk Point	- 1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	- 0 33
Noank, Mystic River	- 0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	- 0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higginum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	- 0 10
Execution Light	- 0 06
Manhasset Bay	- 0 01
Hempstead Harbor	- 0 11
City Island	- 0 03
Rye Beach	- 0 28
Port Chester	- 0 09
Mamaroneck	- 0 08
New Rochelle	- 0 24
Dauids Island	- 0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	- 0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	- 0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Misplion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Sputyen Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	- 0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	- 0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	- 0 08
Point Judith Harbor	- 0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	- 0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

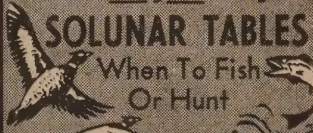
SUNRISE/SUNSET

6/5	5:25	8:32
6/10	5:24	8:35
6/15	5:24	8:37
6/20	5:24	8:39
6/25	5:25	8:40
6/30	5:27	8:40

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
 6/16	 6/24	 6/1	 6/8

The Original Knight
SOLUNAR TABLES
When To Fish Or Hunt



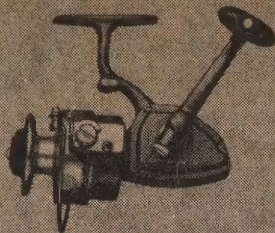
The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

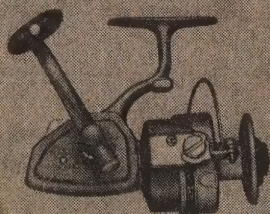
	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
THURS.	5:15	—	5:55	12:15
FRI.	6:25	12:35	6:50	1:20
SAT.	7:35	1:50	8:00	2:25
SUN.	8:40	2:55	9:05	3:25
MON.	9:40	3:55	10:05	4:25
TUES.	10:40	4:50	11:00	5:15
WED.	11:30	5:45	11:55	6:10
THURS.	—	6:25	12:25	6:50

How to find the right spinning reel without spinning your wheels.

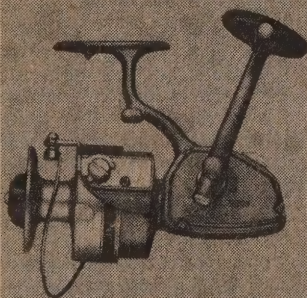
CHECK OUT THE SHAKESPEARE 2400 SERIES
OF SUPER-SMOOTH, HIGH SPEED, SKIRTED SPOOL REELS.



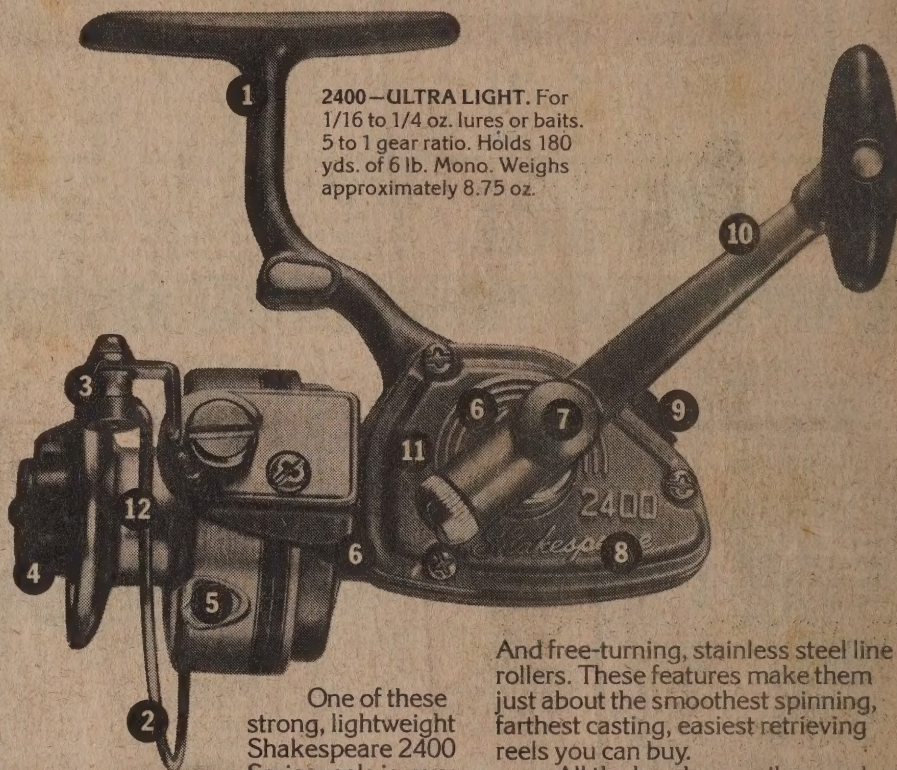
2410—ALL PURPOSE. For 1/8 to 3/8 oz. lures or baits. 4.2 to 1 gear ratio, holds 270 yds. 8 lb. mono, weighs approximately 14 oz.



2430—MEDIUM DUTY. For spinning in fresh or salt water. Corrosion resistant aluminum alloy. 4.2 to 1 gear ratio, holds 300 yds. 10 lb. mono, weighs approximately 17 oz.



2450—LARGE CAPACITY. For surf casting. Corrosion resistant aluminum alloy. 4.1 to 1 gear ratio holds 400 yds. 12 lb. mono, weighs approximately 21 oz.



2400—ULTRA LIGHT. For 1/16 to 1/4 oz. lures or baits. 5 to 1 gear ratio. Holds 180 yds. of 6 lb. Mono. Weighs approximately 8.75 oz.

One of these strong, lightweight Shakespeare 2400 Series reels is your kind of spinning reel.

See the 2400's. Your Shakespeare Dealer will point out that they're loaded with features that put them in a class by themselves. See the wide range—from ultra-light to surf casting.

They're all **skirted spool** reels. That means the line can't fall behind the spool, can't foul, can't fray. It means casts go farther. And it means a larger-than-normal spool for extra line capacity.

You'll also notice that 2400 reels have not one, but **two** sets of ball bearings. Precision-cut gears.

And free-turning, stainless steel line rollers. These features make them just about the smoothest spinning, farthest casting, easiest retrieving reels you can buy.

All the handsome silver-and-blue finished 2400's have push button on-off spools to make line changing easy and fast. Bail return mechanisms are virtually fail proof (and bails can be returned to retrieve position without turning crank). Multi-disc drags produce smooth, even drag pressure. Super-fast retrieves make baits dance, land big ones quickly. And they're all convertible for left- or right-handed use, with one-piece foldaway handles.

Shakespeare

Shakespeare. That's how.

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1. Lightweight aluminum alloy frame. 2. Stainless steel fold down bail. 3. Stainless steel line roller. 4. Push button on-off spool. 5. Convenient line clip. 6. Dual ball bearings. 7. Convertible crank for left- or right-hand use. 8. Precision cut gears. 9. Selective non reverse. 10. One-piece foldaway crank. 11. Fast 5-1 gear ratio. 12. Holds 180 yds. 6 lb. mono.